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CONTENTS

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 November Middle East and South Asia Review 1

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Amman Summit To View Future Arab-Iranian Ties
[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 30 Oct] 2
Egypt's Return to 'Fold' Topic *[Beirut AL-SHIRA' 2 Nov]* 2

Palestinian Affairs

Togo Leader Relaying 'Arafat, Israeli Messages *[Beirut AL-SHIRA' 2 Nov]* 2
Al-Wazir on 'Positive Signs' in Syrian Contacts *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 30 Oct]* 2
Syrian Official Confirms Talks *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 2 Nov]* 3

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Council Approves Economic Accords With Libya 4
BRIEFS 4
Bitat Meets Mauritanian Envoy 4

Egypt

'Abd al-Majid Meets 'Arafat Political Adviser 4
Religious Group Members Arrested in Al-Minya *[AL-WAFD 2 Nov]* 4
CIA Officials Allegedly Interrogate Suspects *[Beirut AL-SHIRA' 2 Nov]* 4
Soviet Counsellor on Mutual Ties, Gulf Conflict 5
AL-AHRAM Criticizes Soviet Stand on Gulf War *[5 Nov]* 5
AL-AKHBAR Notes Iranian 'Danger' in Lebanon *[5 Nov]* 5
Commentary Admits Few Oppose Al-Qadhdhafi *[Voice of the Arabs]* 6

Libya

Saudi Response to Al-Qadhdhafi Remarks Viewed 6
U.S. Actions in Gulf Seek 'Endless War' 7
Presence of Forces in Southern Sudan Denied 7
Cooperation Agreement Signed With SFRY 8

Mauritania

Malian Foreign Minister Arrives With Message 8
Concludes Visit, Departs 8

Morocco

Kuwaiti Newspaper Interviews King Hassan 8
King Grants Pardons on Prophet's Birthday 10

Sudan

SPLA Says Regime To Kill Khartoum Southerners 10

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Bahrain

Amir, Prime Minister Meet With Iranian Envoy *[Tehran]* 12
Information Minister Comments on Gulf War, Press *[AL-WATAN 1 Nov]* 12

PDRY

Appointment of Housing, Finance Ministers Noted 13
Ministers Hail GOSR, Discuss Trade With YAR 14

Saudi Arabia

King's Absence From Amman Summit Explained 14
Syrian Envoy Brings King Message From Al-Asad *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 14

IRAQ

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Activities 15
Communique No 2,898 15
'Second Blow' to Pazanan Complex 15
Communique No 2,899 15
Jets Attack 'Large Maritime Target' 16
Lloyds Confirms Iranian Tanker Hit 16
Denial Second Plane Downed 16
Ramadan Comments on Results of Amman Visit 16
Kirkuk Turks Want 'Democratic Party of Iraq' *[Istanbul TERCUMAN 27 Oct]* 17

ISRAEL

Armitage Arrives, Confers With Shamir, Peres *[HA'ARETZ 4 Nov]* 18
Roundup of French Prime Minister's Visit *[Paris LE MONDE 4 Nov]* 18
AL-QUDS on Results of Visit *[4 Nov]* 19
Chirac Message to Palestinians *[AL-QUDS 4 Nov]* 19
Peres Says Jordan 'Eager' To Achieve Peace 19
No Change Seen in Egypt's Stand on Peace Treaty *[HATZOFE 5 Nov]* 20
Labor Proposes Moscow Meeting With PLO Group *[AL-QUDS 4 Nov]* 20
USSR Urged To Promote Syria-PLO Rapprochement *[AL-SHA'B 2 Nov]* 20
Soviets Considering Palestinian Confederation *['AL HAMISHMAR 5 Nov]* 20
Interests Officer Appointed to Hungary *[HA'ARETZ 5 Nov]* 21
Ministers Try To Renew Broadcasts in Arabic *[MA'ARIV 3 Nov]* 21
Probe of Nafsu Interrogators Ordered To Stop *[THE JERUSALEM POST 4 Nov]* 21
Soldiers Sentenced for Mistreating Detainees *[HA'ARETZ 3 Nov]* 22
Commentary Views Reported Shamir-Husayn Meeting *[HA'ARETZ 3 Nov]* 22

JORDAN

Husayn Cables Gromyko on GOSR Anniversary 24
Husayn Addresses Military College Graduates 24
Soviet Envoy on King's Visit to Moscow, Gulf War *[AL-RA'Y 5 Nov]* 24
Saudi Arabia Pays Third Aid Installment 25

LEBANON

Sa'adah Views Talks With Al-Jumayyil, Ja'ja' *[VOL]* 26
Fadlallah, Shams al-Din Reject Muslim President *[VOL]* 26

Kidnapped Insurance Company Director Released *[RFL]* 26
Resistance Attacks Israelis; Casualties Noted 26
Amal-Palestinian Agreement To Take Effect 6 Nov *[Radio Monte Carlo]* 27
Indefinite General Strike Begins 5 Nov *[VOM]* 27
MEA Suspends Flights 27
Amal Supports Strike 27
Libyans Reportedly Recruiting Sunnis in Al-Biqa' *[AL-NAHAR 3 Nov]* 27
Explosion Near Syrian Checkpoint in Beirut *[RFL]* 27
Syrians, Amal Gunmen Clash on Airport Road *[VOL]* 27
Security Committee Tries to Halt Suburb Clashes 28
'Guarded' Calm Prevails *[VOM]* 28

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Nur Chairs Revolutionary Council Session 29
Ziray, Mozdak Attend DYOA Meeting 2 Nov 29
Resistance Group Joins National Reconciliation 29

Bangladesh

Argeement Reached With India on Ganges Talks 29
Ershad Returns Home From SAARC Summit 30

India

Dialogue With Pakistan To Resume Within Weeks 30
Prime Minister Speaks on Sri Lanka, Siachen 30
Sri Lankan President Arrives for Talks 31
Punjab 'Terrorists' Attack Bank, Kill Cashier 31

Iran

Reportage on Events Marking Unity Week 31
Khamene'i Message To Muslims 31
Commentary Urges Unity Against U.S. 31
Fadlallah Sends Message 32
Further Reportage on 4 Nov Anti-U.S. Events 32
'Agents' Kill 2 Marchers 32
Tehran Marches Detailed 32
Resolution of Anti-U.S. Marchers 33
Larijani Interviewed on Western Sanctions *[KEYHAN 27 Oct]* 34
Minister on Telecommunications Satellite 36
Tehran TV Comments on U.S. 'Weakness' 36
Marxism as Revolutionary Method Criticized 37
Ministry Seeks Speedboat Purchase From Turkey *[MILLIYET 1 Nov]* 37
War Information HQ Denies Shelling of Basra 38
Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue 38
Iraqi Warplane Shot Down 4 Nov 38
2 Iraqi Planes Downed; Pilot Taken 38
Iraqi Planes Bomb Civilian Areas 38
Communique No 3,010 38
Bombers Attack Iraqi Positions 39
IRGC Shells Helicopters Center 39

Pakistan

Junejo Meets With Gandhi in Kathmandu 39

Sri Lanka

Indian Forces Continue To Battle LTTE 39
'Indefinite Curfew' *[AFP]* 39
13 LTTE Killed, 150 Captured 40
LTTE Raids Muslim Refugee Camp 40
Two Killed in EPRLF-LTTE Firefight 40

5 November Middle East and South Asia Review

LD051404 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Air Raids—Iranian planes bombed Iraqi targets in Maysan Province 5 November in retaliation for Iraqi attacks on Iranian "non-military" targets, the Iranian Joint Staff asserted in a statement cited by IRNA. Iraqi raids on civilian targets in Khuzestan the previous day had caused civilian casualties, according to Tehran radio.

For Iraq's part, Voice of the Masses radio carried announcements on further Iraqi raids against Iranian targets 4 November, including three more maritime targets in the Gulf. Iraqi planes also dealt a "destructive blow" to the western oil terminal on Khark Island and launched more raids on the Pazanan oil fields, a communique said. An Iraqi spokesman cited by INA confirmed that an Iraqi warplane was downed over Iranian territory, but denied Iranian claims that a second Iraqi aircraft was shot down in the Khark Island area.

Iran's Naval Requirements—The Turkish paper *Milliyet* published a 1 November report about an Iranian request to purchase speedboats from Turkish firms, ostensibly for "fishing." Turkey is skeptical about the Iranian request because of Iran's use of speedboats for military purposes, the paper noted.

Mahabad Explosion—Tehran radio reported that two people were killed and 26 were wounded when a bomb exploded during 4 November anti-U.S. demonstrations in the northwestern Iranian city of Mahabad. The radio accused "U.S. mercenary agents" of planting the bomb.

Arab Summit

Saudi Attendance—An official source cited by SPA said "there is nothing strange" about the Saudi crown prince attending the Arab summit instead of King Fahd, adding that there is nothing to justify the "interpretations" and "distortions" relayed by the media on the matter. Responding to reports that King Fahd's health played a role in his decision not to attend, the source said King Fahd is in "perfect health."

Al-Asad Message—A Syrian envoy arrived in Saudi Arabia with a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to King Fahd on the Arab summit and the Gulf situation, Radio Monte Carlo noted.

Egypt Return—Jordan is preparing a draft resolution proposing Egypt's return to the Arab fold with the approval of "most" Arab countries, the Beirut paper *Al-Shira'* announced.

Morocco

In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Siyasah* cited by MAP, King Hassan said he was "not optimistic" about the outcome of the Arab summit due to the contradictions among the participants. He also asserted that if the "slightest thing" happens to Kuwait, Morocco would be the "first to defend it." On relations with Algeria, King Hassan said the Saudi mediation between the two countries has been "fruitful" and added that he would be sending his foreign minister to Algeria after the Arab summit. The monarch also came out in favor of readmitting Egypt to the Arab League.

In another development, MAP reported that King Hassan pardoned 232 prisoners in honor of the Prophet's birthday.

Lebanon

Attack on SLA—Hizballah "terrorists" attacked an SLA outpost in the central sector of Israel's "security zone," killing one SLA soldier and wounding seven others, IDF radio reported. Beirut radio claimed that 55 IDF and SLA soldiers were killed or wounded in the attack, which was carried out by 180 Islamic Resistance fighters.

Amal-Palestinian Agreement—The DFLP announced that implementation of a new Amal-Palestinian agreement on ending the camps war will begin 6 November, according to Radio Monte Carlo. During their talks in Algiers, DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri drew up a timetable for implementing the 11 September Amal-Palestinian agreement, the radio noted.

General Strike—A general strike began 5 November in most areas and sectors, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio noted.

Egypt

Security forces arrested 20 leaders and 400 members of "religious groups" in the governorate of Al-Minya 29 October, *Al-Wafd* reported, adding that the situation in the governorate "remains tense."

Israel

The attorney general has halted the investigation of Shin Bet interrogators in the 'Izzat Nafsu case in the wake of the Landau Commission report, *The Jerusalem Post* reported.

Afghanistan

In a speech reported by Moscow Television, party and state leader Najibullah referred to "serious changes" in the organization of political power on the basis of establishing a multiparty and coalition system. He also noted that three high government posts were recently given to non-PDPA members.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Amman Summit To View Future Arab-Iranian Ties

PM041401 London AL-SHARQ AL-AW'SAT in Arabic 30 Oct 87 pp 1-2

[Nasr al-Majali report from London and unattributed report from Cairo: "Summit To Consider Peace Initiative Toward Iran"]

[Excerpt] All protocol preparations for welcoming Arab leaders to the emergency summit have now been completed in Amman. Jordanian sources have confirmed that all Arab leaders will attend the summit despite doubts concerning the participation of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. His decision is expected to be announced within the next few hours. With preparations now completed, certain important agenda issues have already entered the stage of serious discussions between Arab leaders. This is especially true with regard to the main reason the emergency summit was called: diplomatic relations with Iran in view of its continued escalation of the war against Iraq and the Gulf states and its threat to the security and safety of these states.

Information received by *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* from the main Arab capitals that influence Arab decisionmaking indicate that talks actually began 3 weeks ago at senior Arab diplomatic levels. These discussions centered on making the correct decision concerning relations with Iran. According to these same reports, the way is now clear for some Arab leaders who will attend the conference to propose alternatives to breaking diplomatic ties. One such proposal is to form a higher Arab peace committee that will include a number of Arab leaders or their representatives who will visit or contact Iran by various means in a final attempt to persuade it to accept Security Council Resolution 598. This document calls for a cease-fire, withdrawal of the warring forces to international borders, an exchange of prisoners, and the start of peace negotiations between Iran and Iraq.

According to information received by this newspaper, the purpose of the committee would be to warn Iran that the Arab summit could adopt resolutions against it, particularly breaking diplomatic relations and taking economic, trade, as well as other measures. This would negatively affect the security of the entire region and carry the threat of further internationalizing the conflict. Such a result would be unacceptable to Arab states at this stage of sharp, ominous polarization while the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, are trying to achieve detente. [passage omitted]

Egypt's Return to 'Fold' Topic

NC050816 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 2 Nov 87 p 6

[Text] The agenda for the upcoming Arab summit will include a draft resolution proposing Egypt's return to the Arab fold. Jordan is preparing the draft, with the approval of most Arab countries.

Palestinian Affairs

Togo Leader Relaying 'Arafat, Israeli Messages

NC050821 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 2 Nov 87 p 6

[Text] General Eyadema, the Togolese president, is currently relaying verbal messages between PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and some Israeli officials.

Al-Wazir on 'Positive Signs' in Syrian Contacts

PM041509 London AL-SHARQ AL-AW'SAT in Arabic 30 Oct 87 p 1

['Ali Nun report: "Abu Jihad Tells *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*:Syrian-Palestinian Contacts Are Positive, But No Developments Expected Before the Summit"]

[Text] London—Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian forces and Al-Fatah Central Committee member, has announced that recent indirect contacts between the Syrian and Palestinian leaderships have achieved a number of positive results on the road toward direct dialogue. Damascus is still hesitant, however, and no specific developments are expected before the emergency Arab summit takes place in Amman on 8 November.

During a telephone call from London to his headquarters in Tunis yesterday, "Abu Jihad" informed *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* that the PLO has explored all avenues in this regard. However, this should not be interpreted as begging or overeagerness; rather, it is dictated by the interests of the joint Arab struggle. He indicated that the policy of seeking alternatives and undermining Palestinian legitimacy has failed completely.

He asserted: The PLO has responded to every initiative which has sought to normalize relations between it and Syria. We have always been in favor of any friend or brother who could contribute to advancing matters within this framework, but this does not arise from overeagerness or begging. Instead, it stems from a spirit of pan-Arab feeling, which is conscious of the dimensions of the Arab Palestinian struggle against the Zionist enemy. We have always been eager to eliminate minor internal contradictions in order to confront the Zionist enemy. After the efforts made by certain independent brothers in their meetings with the Syrian leadership, we have noticed some positive signs which did not exist previously. We have responded to these signs in order to open the way for the start of a direct Palestinian-Syrian dialogue, especially in light of the conditions around us.

He added that the nature of the threats surrounding our Arab region, as well as the malicious onslaught against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories with the occasional aim of finding alternatives to the PLO and the permanent aim of crushing the will to struggle and

fight, always causes us to reaffirm yet again our desire to strive faithfully and resolutely to eliminate everything that might block the road to rebuilding fraternal relations with Syria and others.

"Abu Jihad" explained to *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* that one of the positive signs to have emerged from the meetings in Damascus is Syria's readiness to begin a dialogue, even if it is initially through mediators, in an effort to reach a direct dialogue with a delegation subsequently formed by the Palestinian leadership.

He stated: Events and developments suggest at this stage that the Syrian leadership is still hesitant, and we do not believe that any steps will be taken before the Arab summit. However, the Palestinians are ever ready to hold any dialogue which takes as its starting point the fundamental pan-Arab awareness of the danger now confronting us all.

Syrian Official Confirms Talks

PM051023 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Nov 87 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Damascus: Contacts with the PLO, on Relations and the Present State of Affairs, Are Continuing"]

[Text] London—In the first official Syrian announcement on contacts between Syria and the PLO, which have been going on for over 2 months, a presidential palace spokesman in Damascus has confirmed that discussion of affairs in general, as well as bilateral relations, is still continuing. Syrian presidential palace spokesman Jubran Kuriyah told *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* that Syria has no personal disputes with anyone, as President Hafiz al-Asad has pointed out on more than one occasion.

Kuriyah added: Our dispute with the PLO is one over a policy; the closer the PLO gets to this policy, the closer we will get to the PLO.

In reply to a question concerning the likelihood of a meeting between President Hafiz al-Asad and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, he stated: It is too early to discuss this subject, and we have no desire to anticipate events.

Algeria

Council Approves Economic Accords With Libya

LD041855 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Nov 87

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers met under the chairmanship of President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the FLN party, at the headquarters of the presidency of the Republic today. [passage omitted]

The Council of Ministers reviewed the expansion of radio coverage and the spreading of radio transmission channels. The council approved a plan of action to boost radio transmission power to enable national radio programs to reach a larger area. It was decided that a number of radio transmitters will be set up to meet the country's present and future needs.

With regard to bilateral cooperation, the Council of Ministers approved a number of Algerian-Libyan agreements to establish several mixed companies in various economic fields.

At the end of its proceedings, the Council of Ministers heard a report on the financial restructuring of 20 national companies and other reports on various issues.

BRIEFS

Bitat Meets Mauritanian Envoy

Mr Rabih Bitat has received Shaykh (Ahmad Ould Mama Amine), ambassador of Mauritania to Algeria. The talks covered bilateral relations, the prospects for strengthening them, and issues of common interest. [Text] *[Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Nov 87 LD]*

Egypt

'Abd al-Majid Meets 'Arafat Political Adviser

NC051327 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with Dr Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

After the meeting, Dr Sha'th said he had briefed the foreign minister on the results of Yasir 'Arafat's contacts in a number of Arab countries, and the efforts being undertaken to convene an international peace conference and to secure the PLO's participation in it. He added that the PLO is making strenuous efforts for Egypt's return to the Arab fold because of Egypt's stands in support of Arab rights. He pointed out that this will enhance the Palestinian cause and help confront the dangers threatening the area.

Religious Group Members Arrested in Al-Minya

JN041921 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 2 Nov 87 pp 1, 6

[By Majdi Hilmi]

[Text] Last Thursday the governorate of Al-Minya was the scene of the biggest police campaign ever since the time of the late President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir. The police were searching for the leaders of religious groups.

The police campaign covered the city of Al-Minya, four districts, and some villages that are believed to be strongholds of the religious groups. A large force of the central security soldiers, karate squads, and armored cars surrounded the Ard al-Mawlid and Ard Sultan suburbs of the city of Al-Minya. Another force surrounded the towns of Mallawi, Maghaghah, Samalut, Dayr Mawas, and some of the neighboring villages. The security forces cordonned off the roads leading to the abovementioned districts and villages and erected roadblocks. They combed the area, searching houses and people.

The campaign has so far resulted in the arrest of 400 members of the religious groups. They have been sent to Abu Za'bal prison. The security forces also sent 20 leaders of the religious groups to the Institute for Combatting International Terrorism to force them to disclose the whereabouts of 'Ali 'Abd al-Fattah, leader of the religious groups in Al-Minya.

Last week the security forces launched a similar campaign on the orders of Interior Minister Zaki Badr and arrested 150 members of the religious groups.

The security situation in the governorate of Al-Minya remains tense.

CIA Officials Allegedly Interrogate Suspects

NC050852 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 2 Nov 87 p 6

[Text] A delegation of senior CIA officials has arrived in Cairo to continue investigations into the case of suspects accused of membership in Egypt's Revolution, a group which has carried out several operations against Israelis in Cairo.

It is noteworthy that CIA operatives had detained a member of Egypt's Revolution at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo for 51 days, without revealing to the [Egyptian] authorities or his family anything about his detention or fate. He was later handed over to the Egyptian authorities, who then conducted an arrest campaign during which 13 officers were detained on charges of belonging to Egypt's Revolution.

The state security prosecutor's office in Cairo has not permitted lawyers to attend interrogations in this case, and the lawyers' union has issued a warning to the prosecutor general in this regard.

Soviet Counsellor on Mutual Ties, Gulf Conflict

NC051241 Cairo MENA in English 1208 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, Nov 5 (MENA)—The political counsellor of the Soviet Embassy here today hailed the development of the Egyptian-Soviet relations.

In a press conference on the occasion of the celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the Soviet revolution today, the Soviet official said Moscow had not and will never provide Iran with arms and relevant rumours are bare of truth.

The political councellor of the Soviet Embassy called for an embargo on providing Iran with arms, adding that the Soviet Union called on the capitalist countries to force companies to stop sending arms.

He pointed out that the Soviet diplomacy has recently been active in attempting to apply the UN Security Council Resolution No. 598.

He also pointed out the US military presence in the Gulf and fleets of the allies of the U.S. led to tension in the area more than before, adding that the Soviet Union wants to apply the idea of forming an international maritime force under flying the UN flag to guarantee shipping in the Gulf.

In reply to query on imposing sanctions on Iran, the Soviet official said that the resolution must be comprehensive and complete.

He underlined the necessity of halting war between the two sides and finding a peaceful and effective solution.

He renewed his country's condemnation of the recent attacks on Kuwait and attempts of getting it involved in the conflict.

He said that the Soviet Union calls on the United States to abide by self-restraint and to keep away from the policy of tension.

He hoped that the third summit between the two superpowers would lead to the conclusion of a treaty on eliminating nuclear short and long range weapons.

AL-AHRAM Criticizes Soviet Stand on Gulf War

NC050658 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 4 Nov (MENA)—*Al-Ahram* has criticized Iran's covert efforts to exploit the contraditions among the major powers on how to deal with the Gulf war. The paper expresses regret that some big states have been taken in by the Iranian game, appearing before the world as if they are trying to further their own interests, whether political or military, first, regardless of the facts of the ongoing fierce war and its hundreds of thousands of Muslim victims on both sides.

In its editorial Thursday *Al-Ahram* points out that there is a clear, detestable hypocrisy in the attitude of some of the big states, a blatant hypocrisy showing the world their contradictory positions of supporting an end to the war in accordance with Security Council Resolution 598 and of obstructing its implementation at the same through suspicious aims and deeds.

In this respect *Al-Ahram* lauds recent statements by British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe during his visit to Jordan. It says he revealed new dimensions of the current, behind-the-scenes conflict among the five big powers at the Security Council on how to deal with the Gulf war. Howe, it adds, strongly criticized the Soviet attitude, which has shifted from approval of the Security Council's resolution to attempting unilateral approaches to Iran to emerge from its present dilemma by evading the resolution's unanimous approval.

The paper says that these statements coincided with the departure of the Soviet envoy [Vorontsov] from Tehran and the release of a joint communique in which Tehran said it was favorably considering the Soviet proposal for the formation of a UN naval force to replace the Western states' fleets in the Gulf. This proposal, the paper says, involves political and executive problems, whereas the Security Council's unanimous resolution on ending the war stipulates conclusive, applicable measures. What remains, it adds, is for all states, particularly the large ones, to assume their responsibility in helping to implement the resolution.

AL-AKHBAR Notes Iranian 'Danger' in Lebanon

NC050707 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Cairo, 4 Nov (MENA)—*Al-Akhbar* has warned against the dangerous game Iran has been playing for several years, attempting to dominate Lebanon as part of its plan to gradually dominate the Arab world. The paper says that in so doing Iran is exploiting the fact that the Arab states are preoccupied with plots against each other, distracted from their basic issues, and set on achieving personal interests.

In its Thursday commentary *Al-Akhbar* says: The Iranian rulers have exploited the anarchy prevailing in Lebanon to sow seeds enabling them to realize their plan to take control of Lebanon through Shi'ite militias, giving themselves religious names such as Hizballah, Islamic Jihad, and Shi'ite Amal, all of which work for Iran, obeying its instructions. Iran has provided them with money and arms so that they can overcome the other forces fighting in Lebanon.

The paper adds: We do not have to explain to the Arab nation's leaders the dangers to their states if they permit the establishment of a Khomeyni agent regime in Lebanon. This would be tantamount to a Trojan horse in the heart of the Arab nation.

In conclusion, *Al-Akhbar* demands that the Arab summit, which will convene in the Jordanian capital in a few days, discuss this new danger, which is undoubtedly in the minds of rulers, and to prepare to confront it at the appropriate time.

Commentary Admits Few Oppose Al-Qadhdhafi

NC041153 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 2055 GMT 3 Nov 87

[Unattributed commentary from "the Voice of the Libyan People" program]

[Excerpts] No one would disagree about the nature of the ruling regime in Libya, especially that this rule has brought much damage and corruption to the country.

What we are witnessing today is nothing less than a further stage in the accelerating slide toward total financial and [word indistinct] destruction. Al-Qadhdhafi has lost legitimacy as a ruler—that is, if we assume that he ever had any. His tyranny and insanity have increased. He behaves as if people have been born simply for him to control their lives, to terrorize them, and to make them listen to nothing but his irrational talk.

It is natural for sick rulers, like the ones mentioned in history books, which describe their acts and their deaths, to resort to the most vile and vicious forms of repression against those who refuse to become part of the herd into which they seek to put the people.

This man has the effrontery to boast of all that he has done and even of things he has not done. Has he not publicly threatened to bury his opponents' children and ravish their women?

There are only a few individuals confronting all this tyranny. Has it not always been so? Our people are not unique in this regard. Not everyone exhibits the same degree of faith, awareness, courage, purity, and other similar qualities required of those who choose to confront such tyranny. They are the cream of the crop, and hence, by definition, only a few. There are a few of those inside and outside the homeland. The vast majority, however, are preoccupied with the dilemma of fulfilling their daily needs under the shadow of suffering, the suffering of exiles outside their homeland or under oppression inside it.

Another group consists of those who are concerned merely about material gain and are indifferent to what is happening around them. Such people either pursue pleasure and profligacy abroad, or if inside the country, they represent the regime's prime tools in fulfilling its vile goals. There are few indeed who are qualified to change history, whether by an outstanding individual feat or by great collective action.

How can the situation be different when most of the people are not aware of the facts? They do not even know how deep the chasm is into which the great slide began in 1969.

Let us consider some of the aspects of the new situation within the country. Loyalty there means only loyalty to the ruler. To prove such loyalty we must repeat all that he says with utmost backwardness and demonstrate rapture at his feats by dancing and shouting. The meaning of the words is not important, for such are the rites of the new religion. Observance of this religion is a duty for every revolutionary citizen who deserves to keep his head. To many simple-minded folk, this is a safe course. To the worthless and the sick, it is a means to fulfill their vile greed. They dance with rapture around the scaffolds.

The function of science, meanwhile, is to serve the ruler's whims and absurdity even if this results in further damage and corruption. Thus, some people become involved and are no longer able to withdraw. They know that the great services they have performed will do them no good for when the ruler senses that his servants' zeal has cooled, all will suffer equally. Such individuals have found safety in continuing to give allegiance and obedience to their master and turning their backs on their own people's welfare.

Some others see safety in withdrawal and isolation. Their isolation accomplishes nothing. Young people find examples in both groups of the despair and frustration that awaits them. [passage omitted]

Despite all this and all that will happen later in the event that Al-Qadhdhafi's tyranny continues, there will still be only a few who seek martyrdom. There are few who can patiently hold steadfast. Let us act, each according to his ability, to bring the day of salvation closer. We must avoid allegations that attempt to hold our people down. [passage omitted]

Libya

Saudi Response to Al-Qadhdhafi Remarks Viewed

LD041942 Tripoli JANA in English 1824 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth [November] 4, *Jamahiriyah News Agency*—The Saudi news agency (SPA) broadcasted a commentary by its political editor on some parts of the press conference held here by the leader of the revolution last Monday.

The commentary said that Saudi Arabia has fulfilled its obligations to the Arab frontline states and that Jamahiriyah did not fulfill such obligations.

JANA's Arab affairs editor said: "Despite the clear confirmation from the leader of the revolution in his press conference that what he had presented regarding a number of Arab affairs was stemming from a firm

revolutionary stance and does not mean providing a chance for media fights with Arab brothers in the Arab Peninsula...but there is no harm in explaining some matters which the political editor of sisterly (SPA) has talked about in a manner he knows better than anyone else it contradicts completely with the factual subjectivity.

"First: Traditionally, the Arab frontline countries are Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Does Saudi want to reward Egypt for its rulers' signing of the treaty of surrender to the Zionist enemy, recognise it and its occupation of Arab land?— Then, what sort of confrontation Jordan is making and deserves support for?.. Do we reward who closed the longest Arab front facing the Zionist enemy?-...

"Second: If the talk concerning steadfast Syria, the Palestinian resistance and the fighting patriotic Lebanese faction, then these sides know who stand by their side in the natural confrontation trench. They know who tried, and still trying, to pressure them to drag them to abandoning the gun and surrender to the enemy."

by U.S. Fleet

LD041900 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] JANA's international affairs editor commented on the frantic U.S. military and political moves in the Arabian Gulf region by saying: One notices that with these moves, the United States has appointed itself as an international security council and has replaced it [the UN Security Council]. The United States is the one that is following up reactions of the parties concerned with the Gulf war, assesses and comments on them, and is extremely eager that UN Security Council Resolution 598 be implemented.

Strangely, this is the first time that the U.S. Administration has displayed an interest in a resolution passed by the UN Security Council and been enthusiastic about it. The United States is now demanding that the resolution be implemented and is attempting to involve the world in this process. It may even embark on a suicidal adventure for the sake of implementing this document, although the U.S. Administration's position toward resolutions of the international community is well known: it either vetoes or ignores them, treating them as though they didn't exist. It has obstructed scores of international resolutions that stressed the right of peoples' issues of liberation and destiny. The United States has in this context opposed all resolutions concerning the right of the Palestinian people to liberate their territory, all those denouncing the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, and all those demanding the Zionists' withdrawal from its southern part. The United States has also blocked all proposals that criticize the apartheid system in South Africa, demand the liberation of Namibia, or demand the boycott of the white minority regime in Pretoria.

The editor said: The only explanation for the current U.S. stand in the Gulf is that this war has actually reached a point where it is harming what the United States considers its vital interests. Therefore, the U.S. Administration is now behaving as though it had replaced the Security Council, or has occupied it and made itself a United Nations organization. The United States uses its lackeys and agents and has prompted their moves in an attempt to delude the world that it cares about the Gulf, that its frantic activities there are designed to safeguard world peace and security.

The editor added in his commentary: The danger that must be stressed, and to which attention is drawn, is that navigation in the Arabian Gulf is now threatened due to the rampaging of the U.S. fleet there. This threat did not previously exist. Consequently, only military warships are able to move freely. As for merchant vessels or even fishing boats, their movement has been restricted, not to mention stopped, since they became a direct target for U.S. battleships that employ the excuse of protecting international navigation.

U.S. Actions in Gulf Seek 'Endless War'

LD041957 Tripoli JANA in English 1820 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth [November] 4, *Jamahiriyah News Agency*—News from Washington reported that the U.S. Administration was seriously thinking of providing Kuwait with a missile system to be used against the Iranian "Silkworm" missiles.

JANA's Arab affairs editor wondered by saying: "What caused the United States to think about sending missiles to Kuwait now? If the claim was 'protection of Kuwait' from Iranian missiles due to the expansions in the Iran-Iraq war, then everyone knows that this war has entered its 8th year. So, the real target that explains such U.S. trend is pressing ahead in drowning the whole region in an endless war to safeguard U.S. interests in the region".

The editor elaborated: "If the feverish U.S. military move in the Arab Gulf region is made under the claim of preserving world peace and security, then the world needs explanation of the phrases because the imperialist media misinformation has reached a degree that differentiation is impossible between war and peace, between terrorist gangs and liberation movements, the protection of international shipping and the quarrelsome of U.S. war fleets in the oceans and the forbidding of others' shipping and the crude interference in the affairs of others in the name of protection".

Presence of Forces in Southern Sudan Denied

LD042037 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1857 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Nov (JANA)—The hireling Ndjamena radio continues to broadcast unfounded claims concerning the presence of Libyan forces on the Sudanese-Chadian border.

This radio station intentionally broadcasts lies such as these to cover the terrorist actions carried out by units belonging to agent Habre against villages in southern Sudan's Darfur Province.

In recent days, Sudanese newspapers have published reports and statements by Sudanese officials. These have confirmed the involvement of agent Habre's gangs in burning agricultural fields and acts of theft against the sons of the Sudanese people through these gangs' continuous infiltration of villages in southern Sudan.

Cooperation Agreement Signed With SFRY

LD041902 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1157 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Tripoli, 3 Nov (JANA)—The minutes of an agreement reached at the ninth session of the Joint Libyan Arab-Yugoslav Cooperation Commission were signed this morning in Tripoli.

The minutes of the agreement were signed by the secretary general of the People's Committee of the Treasury, and Andrej Ocvirk, member of the Federal Executive Council and president of the SFRY Federal Commission for Energy and Industry.

The minutes of the agreement include bolstering joint relations of cooperation between the two countries in the economic and scientific-technical fields, as well as promoting joint companies. They also specify strengthening joint cooperation in the field of light industries and exchanging expertise in the field of agricultural research.

The two sides stressed the need to accelerate and conclude discussions on the executive program for joint cooperation in the media field.

Mauritania

Malian Foreign Minister Arrives With Message

AB041557 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Modibo Keita, the Malian minister for foreign affairs, was received this morning by the head of state, Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya. The Malian minister delivered a message from President Moussa Traore to the Mauritanian head of state. [passage omitted] Mohamed Lemine Ould N'diayane, the Mauritanian minister for foreign affairs and cooperation, and Nfagnanama Kone, the Malian ambassador to our country, were present at the meeting. Minister Keita arrived in Nouakchott this morning.

Concludes Visit, Departs

AB050936 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Malian Foreign Minister Modibo Keita left Nouakchott yesterday evening at the end of a 1-day visit. During his stay, he delivered a message from President Moussa Traore to the CMSN chairman and head of state, Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya. The Malian envoy expressed his satisfaction with the visit, which is part of the process of bilateral consultations. He also said he was pleased with the excellent relations between the two countries. The head of Malian diplomacy was seen off at the airport by Major Mohamed Lemine Ould N'diayane, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Morocco

Kuwaiti Newspaper Interviews King Hassan

LD050248 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Rabat, 4 Nov (MAP)—His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco has granted an interview to the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Siyasah*. His majesty dealt with many issues, including the upcoming Arab summit conference in Amman, his majesty's call for the convening of an Islamic summit conference, and the Iraq-Iran war.

Here is the full text of that interview.

Question: Your Majesty, there are indications that you will attend the summit conference personally. This suggests that there is something your majesty wants to say in Amman. Can you tell the Arab nation what is on your majesty's mind?

Answer: In fact this question is in itself a whole program. Let us start with what the Arab nation and people are expecting. I am an optimistic man. Although I am not pessimistic about the upcoming conference, I am unfortunately not optimistic either. This is because the participants in the conference will deal with two issues, the inter-Arab situation and the Iraq-Iran war. Whether they like it or not, my honorable brothers will find themselves face-to-face with a number of contradictions. As such, I am afraid that the conference may produce resolutions and recommendations that will not satisfy everyone and may anger some. The Arab public would then question its identity and search for its destiny. [passage omitted]

Question: Your Majesty, you know that the Gulf now faces many threats. What is our situation when an Arab leader like yourself tells us that he is not optimistic about the conference?

Answer: I am not optimistic because no matter how well-intentioned the participants may be, there are positions some of us have taken in the distant or recent past at the Arab or Islamic levels. My question then is this: Can those who have adopted these past positions abandon them for an inter-Arab or Arab-Islamic agreement?

That is the problem and that is what I am afraid of. That is why I said I am not optimistic, because some participants in the emergency Arab summit may find themselves committed to something that is contrary to their

expectations of the conference. Will they have the courage to sacrifice their commitments for Arab unity? Or will they hold on to their opinions, saying one thing and planning something else?

Question: Your Majesty, you are the one who advocated a conference regardless of who would attend. Such a conference was held here. Do you think the upcoming conference will be convened regardless of who attends and therefore its results will be those of the participants?

Answer: The Arab countries were not divided into two camps and to such a degree when I said that summit conferences could be convened with whomever attended. The Iraq-Iran war, let us call a spade a spade, had yet to have an impact upon Arab society. The Arab nation was not divided into two camps—those who wanted to implement all the clauses of the Arab League Charter and those who wanted to have the right to implement what they chose. At that time I said yes. However, the problem now is not one of how many attend, but the unity of intentions. "Deeds depend on intentions." If only the Arabs would unite, even a small number. As we know, people should meet to seek harmony. The contrary is true in our case. We agree to meet and each of us carries in his briefcase his own contradictions and positions. Each has already decided to include in his address and speeches every justification for not meeting his commitments. As I said, the situation is very difficult in both the Arab and Islamic worlds.

Question: Does Your Majesty not believe that moderate and rational countries, as opposed to those with unknown orientations, can help Arab causes?

Answer: It is difficult to say whether a country is rational or not. What I can say is that in previous years, and even in the last few months, we have hailed, welcomed, and applauded the harmony of the Gulf countries. I have said that they did what they had to do. Now it is time for the Arab Maghreb to do what should be done and for those Arab countries located between the Arab Mashriq and Arab Maghreb to do what should be done.

However, I am afraid that the countries that have organized themselves under a good agreement, the GCC, will find themselves facing two choices at the summit conference. They can take an undesirable road or do away with this good and well-coordinated setup. The GCC has set an example that should be respected by us all since it has accomplished and achieved many things. It is no secret that the Gulf countries do not agree on some of the steps concerning Iran.

What will be the fate of the GCC, which we have welcomed, desired, and looked to as an example to be followed? Will the GCC choose to remain united even though some of its members will go one way and the rest another. Or will every member go its own way, thereby throwing away this exemplary agreement? These are some of the problems.

Question: Your Majesty, undoubtedly no one questions your position on Iraq. As you can see, Kuwait is now threatened. What would Morocco's position be if Kuwait were directly threatened?

Answer: What I will tell you, Brother Jarallah, is to be careful about asking me such a question in the future. You surely know that whatever the situation or requirements may be, Morocco will remain faithful to the clauses of the Arab League Charter. Therefore, if the slightest thing happens to Kuwait, Morocco will be the first to defend it.

This would not be the first time. I would remind you that in 1962 or 1961, when Iraq claimed that Kuwait was part of its territory, Morocco was the only Arab country to protest and recall its ambassador. That was the 1st or 2d year of my reign. This is documented. This is true for every Arab country. Morocco will never disavow its duties because there is no need. As far as Morocco is concerned, what is clear is clear and what is unclear is unclear. What is lawful is clear and what is prohibited is clear. As for that which is doubtful, it is no good now or in the future.

Question: Your Majesty, where do you think the Iraq-Iran war will lead?

Answer: One thing that makes me pessimistic is the nature of wars: They are wars. What is taking place between Iraq and Iran is not what it seems, despite the death of numerous Muslims for whom I, like everyone, pray to God for compassion and mercy. Goals and objectives lie behind the Iraq-Iran war. The danger is that in coming years, my sons or I may find ourselves in search of an identity. Am I an Arab? There is no Arab nation. Am I am Muslim? There is no Islamic unity. Some people—private citizens, heads of state, employers—may be able to live without an identity. But personally, as a man, I do not want to live as a ghost. I look for Arabism, but I do not find it. I look for what unites Muslims besides their statement that "there is no God but Allah and Muhammad is His messenger." However, the Iraq-Iran war is only one-tenth of the iceberg, despite all the losses, victims, and martyrs inflicted on both sides and the problems it has caused. One can only see one-tenth of the iceberg. One can only see one-tenth of it, while the other nine-tenths are submerged.

Question: Your Majesty, would you like to add anything on the events in Mecca?

Answer: The analyst could approach the incident in Mecca from two angles, the religious, Islamic angle and the political angle. [passage omitted]

I called for an Islamic summit. I thought, and still think, that an Islamic summit should precede an Arab summit so that the Arabs can solve their problems, raise the word of God, and preserve Islamic unity. Some 6 or 7 countries out of 45 are nothing, but 4 or 5 out of 22 members

of the Arab League are a fifth or a quarter. That is why I asked you at the beginning if we are Arabs and if we are united Muslims. Personally, I cannot find an answer.

Question: Your Majesty, your stand was clear when you received Peres and said that nobody can teach us patriotism. However, in retrospect, and following the appearance of certain international problems, do you think the Arabs have missed another opportunity?

Answer: The Arabs, or some Arabs, are missing an opportunity now because the only common factor rallying Arab countries, whatever their political or ideological orientation, is the Palestinian question. This question precisely and naturally involves who represents Palestine, and here we come to the PLO.

This common factor is now in question, both in terms of its depth as an Arab-Israeli problem and its constitutional form, including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative. It is no longer the one belief we should cling to. Yes, we all say the PLO is the sole legitimate representative, but what organization? The liberation organization, those who are in it, those who are not? This is what has made me wonder for years whether I am an Arab or something else.

Question: Your Majesty, has the Saudi mediation between Morocco and Algeria been fruitful or is it now somewhat frozen?

Answer: I would not say it is frozen. On the contrary, it has created a new dynamism. However, political agriculture is quite different from agriculture per se. In real agriculture you know that when you plant a seed you must wait perhaps 3 months, 6 months, or a full year for it to grow, whereas political agriculture has no timetable or seasons. I am not saying this to be courteous to King Fahd, but rather to establish the truth. The mediation has been a great help in meeting the minimum needs of both Algeria and Morocco in learning what we want. We know what we want and I hope our neighbors will let us know what they want as soon as possible.

As soon as the summit conference ends I will send Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali with a written message to His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid to rejuvenate dynamism and raise the levels of our diplomatic, human, and trade exchanges.

Therefore, I can tell you that the mediation has been fruitful, but there are no fixed timetables in diplomatic agriculture. Question: Your Majesty, did the defensive wall built by Morocco reduce the costs of war?

Answer: It did not reduce them, but it undoubtedly gave a different quality and direction to military operations.

Question: Your Majesty, do you think the time is now right for Egypt's return to the Arab League?

Answer: First, I can speak freely about this because I did not attend the Baghdad conference. I deeply regret that because if I had, I would have done my utmost to preserve Egypt's place in the Arab League. Our foreign minister attended, and as you know, regardless of who the foreign minister may be, he will not have enough clout when he faces heads of state. From the beginning I opposed Egypt's expulsion from the Arab League. The question now has two parts: Are we ready to bring Egypt back and is Egypt ready to return?

We must ask both these questions and I think in this case Egypt's answer is the most important.

As far as I am concerned, I have no objection to Egypt's return to the Arab League. As for the others, I do not know their views. Egypt's reply is the important thing even if the Arab League Council met and decided unanimously to invite Egypt back with all the necessary hospitality and respect due the Egyptian people, and appreciation due the Egyptian president. The reply of the one proposed to is more important than the reply of the one proposing. [passage omitted]

King Grants Pardons on Prophet's Birthday

LD042206 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Nov 87

[All figures as received]

[Text] Rabat, 4 Nov (MAP)—On the occasion of the Prophet's birthday in the year 1407, corresponding to 1987, Morocco's King Hassan II has decided to grant pardons concerning the detention or prison sentences of 232 prisoners:

—reduction of the detention or prison sentence of 121 prisoners;

—reduction of life sentences to a specified term of imprisonment for 4 prisoners;

—pardon of only the detention sentences of 33 people;

—pardon of the detention sentences and fines of 2 people;

—pardon of only the fines of 4 people.

Sudan

SPLA Says Regime To Kill Khartoum Southerners

EA042046 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Latuka 1100 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Emmanuel Ambrose Ocholi-Moi commentary]

[Excerpts] Greetings to you all, listeners. Have you heard what Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's Ummah Party and the Democratic Unionist Party want to do to you, the Sudanese people in Khartoum? We want you to listen and take this very seriously. Those of you who are listening, especially

those of you living in Khartoum, must tell those who are not near a radio. SPLA radio does not lie to you. We gave you advance warning when Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi began his roundups last year. [passage omitted]

These groups have already armed their supporters. They want to kill you southerners in particular, and other Africans from the north living in Khartoum in general. Our correspondent in the city has reported this. The Ummah supporters among these armed men are Ansar people who were trained in Libya. Everybody in Khartoum must have known when these people were brought to the capital. These people say there are still too many of you in Khartoum. That is why they want you out. They say you are a threat to their regime. Of course we do not know why this should be. These people will continue to do this kind of thing unless force is used against them. This is one of the reasons we tell you to join us and form a big force to face them. Ask yourselves if you have ever chased an Arab from southern Sudan.

Thank you very much.

Bahrain

Amir, Prime Minister Meet With Iranian Envoy

LD051123 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] According to a report by a Central News Unit correspondent, the Iranian charge d'affaires in Bahrain met with Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, 2 days ago. The two men discussed bilateral relations, the situation in the Persian Gulf, recent developments in the imposed war, and Security Council Resolution 598.

The Iranian charge d'affaires, in emphasizing the responsibility of Persian Gulf littoral states to preserve regional security and stability, expressed Iran's readiness to cooperate with other countries in this matter.

The amir of Bahrain noted his pleasure at the growth in bilateral relations, as well as his anxiety concerning the tense situation in the Persian Gulf.

The Iranian charge d'affaires also met with Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifaf, prime minister of Bahrain. The prime minister expressed his hope for the further expansion of relations with Iran and stated: We, too, desire regional security and stability. We believe this can be achieved with the cooperation of all countries in the region, especially the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Information Minister Comments on Gulf War, Press

JN032036 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 1 Nov 87 p 13

["Text" of interview with Minister of Information Tariq al-Mu'ayyad by Bari'ah 'Alam al-Din in Manama; date not given]

[Excerpts] ['Alam al-Din] The Arab summit is due to be held in Amman at a critical time for the region. What are your expectations for the summit? What progress can it make in efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war and the resulting state of tension?

[Al-Mu'ayyad] The region is truly passing through a critical time. We as Gulf states must not wait for the Arab summit, for it has few means with which to resolve the problem of the Gulf war. I believe that the Gulf states must rely on themselves above all else in confronting all threats and resolving all their problems. Then they can rely upon their brothers and friends, Arab and non-Arab. By friends I mean countries that have trade and political relations with the Gulf states. We must admit that the situation in the region is growing increasingly serious and critical. If the UN Security Council fails to implement the resolution on a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran, we must realize what this entails, assuming we take a pessimistic view of the present situation. However, if we take an optimistic view, we see there have been 7 years of war between Iraq and Iran without the Gulf states having become involved. This confirms that leaders of the Gulf states possess sufficient wisdom and tact to enable them to avoid becoming involved in great problems and to stave off the threat of a war whose magnitude and repercussions are known. It is a war whose only winners are destruction and the exhaustion and waste of wealth and effort.

Since our human resources are limited, we in the Gulf states need the efforts of every individual in the struggle for construction. In the past we depended on foreign manpower. We must depend on our local manpower, in addition to the wealth God granted us and which should be enjoyed by our citizens, to build the region. We do not want our sons to die in needless wars.

['Alam al-Din] According to reports here, Iran has declared war on Kuwait. Does this mean war is declared on all GCC states?

[Al-Mu'ayyad] The war, of course, is not a rumor but an existing reality. The Gulf states are in complete solidarity with Kuwait. We hope that the flames of war will not spread to the entire region. Kuwait has striven and is still trying very hard to avoid confrontation. It patiently accepted and absorbed some challenges, not out of weakness but rather to not expose its citizens to the woes of war. This situation does not require a declaration of war, for the war already exists. The present state of tension prompts every individual and every state to be prepared to confront danger at any time.

We are fully confident that Kuwait will not initiate any stand that could lead to entering the war, and that it will not cause the war to escalate.

['Alam al-Din] Do you believe that the United States is serious in its defense of the Gulf region?

[Al-Mu'ayyad] I believe the Western countries are now convinced that the Gulf region, which is economically and commercially important to the West, is being exposed to real dangers that must be confronted or stopped. It must be made clear that our cooperation is primarily economic. We believe the Western countries are serious in their efforts to confront dangers of the Gulf war and to prevent reciprocal economic relations from being affected by the escalating military conflict. The war influences interests of the Western countries just as it does our interests.

The West realizes that if the Gulf economy is affected, its own economy will also be affected. Consequently, we believe the West is serious in its efforts to protect freedom of navigation in the Gulf. Of course, no one wishes the Western states to enter the war on our behalf. This must be clear. There is a sincere desire to protect freedom of navigation in international Gulf waters. These waters are the vital nerve of a region that very much wants a continued flow of oil and the continued

delivery of manufactured goods to all. Freedom of navigation is a matter of life and death for every Gulf citizen. This must also be crystal clear. The Gulf countries will defend themselves to the last breath, for they are defending their lives and their survival. [passage omitted]

['Alam al-Din] Do you censor the private media?

[Al-Mu'ayyad] There is no official censorship of private media. I can say that this sector exercises self-imposed censorship, as is the case in all other activities. We believe that every Bahraini citizen is his own guardian. We hope that the principle of self-imposed censorship becomes prevalent in all media sectors here and in Europe. Proper journalists do not write anything that would harm their country. This commitment should become a general rule. Western journalists freely criticize and oppose things, but they never damage their own country. They also do not seek to assassiante officials or overthrow governments. This must happen in our Arab countries.

We are proud of the standard our journalists have attained. We do not exercise any censorship that restricts their freedom. We also impose no censorship on Arab newspapers because we know they respect the profession of journalism and their role. Arab newspapers are sold in our country the same day they are printed, without any censorship. This is also the case with foreign newspapers, books, and periodicals. We, of course, confront anyone who seeks to harm our country.

['Alam al-Din] After the war in Lebanon broke out, some thought that Bahrain would replace Beirut as an Arab press center. However, Kuwait outdistanced Bahrain in this. Why?

[Al-Mu'ayyad] The State of Bahrain is not competing with any Arab country, nor does it seek to take anything from its Arab sister countries. Bahrain provides services within the framework of its policy. We do not want a sensational press. We want a moderate, objective, and earnest press that will communicate views of countries in the region to the peoples of the world.

Bahrain has opened its doors to all international news agencies and well-known foreign newspapers. We have established fruitful relations with all international newspapers in accordance with this policy. At the same time, we have also attempted to limit the presence of journalists whose only desire is to report on the war. Our major interest is to have a press that reports on either the region's development in all fields, whether economic, cultural, or scientific, or on our heritage, values, and history. This is the press we want, not a sensational press or one interested in only the war.

['Alam al-Din] What about the local press?

[Al-Mu'ayyad] The local press is a different case. Material resources in Bahrain are far less abundant than Kuwait's, for example. In spite of this, we believe that the Kuwaiti press, as is the case with the Bahraini press and the press of other Gulf countries, does its best to serve pan-Arab causes.

['Alam al-Din] Are we correct that a new political newspaper in Bahrain will soon be launched?

[Al-Mu'ayyad] The second Bahraini newspaper to be issued will have strong bases. This is because we now have Bahraini press cadres who can manage such a newspaper. I frankly state without any reservations that a serious press can only be produced by the sons of the country itself.

['Alam al-Din] What impact has the Iraq-Iran war had on the media?

[Al-Mu'ayyad] We live in a region that is experiencing war at close range for the first time. Many and conflicting news reports are disseminated by radio. Everyone can listen to these, and they can also read newspapers. Some news reports are slanted. All this falls under the rubric "War is Propaganda and Information". In many cases, propaganda falls short of the truth and has a definite objective. We must know how to handle this state of affairs.

We are not warmongers. We seek to deal with all conflicting, false, and doubtful reports that are disseminated by radio and television stations, news agencies, and the press. These conflicting reports put the citizen at a loss, for he cannot distinguish what is true and what is false. This shows the importance of the role of the media and its programs. The local media should be capable of confronting campaigns of distortion and separate the facts from the lies.

PDRY

Appointment of Housing, Finance Ministers Noted

EA042113 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, today issued two Presidium decrees on the appointment of two ministers. These are the ministers of installations and housing and of finance. The first article of the first decree appoints Brother 'Abd al-Qawi Muthanna Hadi minister of installations and housing. The first article of the second decree appoints Dr Ahmad Nasir al-Danani minister of finance. The remaining articles of the two decrees revoke any previous appointments to these two posts and state that the decrees become effective from the date of their issue and publication in the official gazette.

Ministers Hail GOSR, Discuss Trade With YAR

EA042104 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers held its regular meeting this morning. It was chaired by Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

At the start of its meeting, the Council of Ministers addressed greetings to the friendly Soviet people on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR].

The message reads: The friendly Soviet people and their great Communist Party are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the GOSR. All progressive and peace-loving people are celebrating this great, historic, and internationalist occasion, which established a solid foundation for the first workers and peasants state on our planet.

The PDRY Council of Ministers finds it a joyous occasion to address greetings and pride to the Soviet people and the friendly USSR Government on this historic occasion. This day occupies a prominent place in the feelings of all the masses of our great PDRY people.

The firm, militant, and internationalist relations that bind our Yemeni people and our YSP to the Soviet people and their friendly Communist Party require no further description. Due to the friendship and cooperation agreement between our two countries, these relations have risen to the highest level, in accordance with the aspirations of the Yemeni workers and toilers. They firmly reflect what our people feel; namely, appreciation and pride for the GOSR.

Because the PDRY Government highly appreciates the friendly Soviet Union's firmly established stands backing our country and providing all aspects of increasing support at all levels, it considers this an occasion to reaffirm its firm resolve to reinforce and consolidate its close relations with the friendly Soviet Government, under the guidance of the directives of our ruling party, the YSP, and in light of the friendship and cooperation agreement between our two friendly countries.

Greetings of honor and esteem to the GOSR on its 70th anniversary! [passage omitted]

The council also examined a memorandum on importing items through barter from the northern part of the homeland. This includes the importation of agricultural and industrial products. The council stressed the importance of expanding trade between the two parts and providing all possible facilities to farmers for marketing their products, especially fruit and vegetables. It authorized the responsible authorities to take necessary measures to implement this. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

King's Absence From Amman Summit Explained

LD042242 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2150 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Al-Madinah, 4 Nov (SPA)—In reply to what has been reported by some news agencies and media organs on unrealistic interpretations of and commentaries on the action of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques—who appointed his brother His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, to lead the Saudi delegation to the emergency Arab summit—and to avoid the media's continued and mistaken interpretation of this matter, an official source has stated the following to SPA:

There is nothing unusual about King Fahd delegating his brother, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah, to lead the Saudi delegation to the Amman emergency Arab summit. The attendance of his royal highness means that the custodian of the two holy mosques is attending in person. His royal highness previously led the Saudi delegation to the Casablanca summit. Under the chairmanship of his royal highness, Saudi Arabia participated completely, exactly as if its delegation had been led by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques.

The source added: In light of this explanation, the Kingdom does not see anything that justifies the interpretations and distortions relayed by the media on the reasons for this natural delegation.

The source concluded: As for what *Reuter* reported this evening after attributing it to someone referred to as a Saudi diplomat, that King Fahd's decision not to attend is due partly to reasons of health, we would like to stress that King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, enjoys perfect health. We ask God to always grant him and all his brother leaders of the Arab and Islamic nations good health, to allow them to continue their efforts to serve issues of the Arabs and Muslims, and to make them prosperous.

Syrian Envoy Brings King Message From Al-Asad

JN041522 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] A Syrian envoy arrived in Saudi Arabia today with a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The message concerns the current Gulf situation and the extraordinary Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman on 8 November.

An informed source in Beirut has conveyed this information. The Syrian envoy's visit coincides with the Saudi announcement that King Fahd will not attend the extraordinary Arab summit in person.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Activities

Communique No 2,898

JN041300 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1227 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Communique No 2,898 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 4 November]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted] In confirmation of our country's strength and its superiority over the enemies of our religion, homeland, and civilization, and in the exercise of our right to destroy the pillars of aggression, the planes of our gigantic Air Force carried out the following heroic missions today:

1. At 0945 [0645 GMT], a number of our aircraft dealt a violent blow to a production complex in the extremely important Pazanan oil fields. They pounded their targets and set them ablaze.

2. At the same time, a number of our aircraft dealt another devastating blow to a second production complex in the Pazanan oil fields. They pounded their targets, covering them with explosions.

3. A number of our aircraft simultaneously carried out a violent raid on the oil by-products complex in the same area. They destroyed their targets, set them ablaze, and left smoke billowing from them.

4. At 1215, our aircraft dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

5. At 1243, our aircraft carried out a successful raid on the television relay station in Taheri to silence the voice of charlatanism and cheap lies. [passage omitted]

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 November 1987

'Second Blow' to Pazanan Complex

JN041439 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1425 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 4 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Pursuant to our Communique No. 2,898 issued this afternoon, our daring Air Force aircraft dealt a great blow to the oil by-products complex in the Pazanan oil fields at 1400 [1100 GMT] today. Our aircraft pounded their targets and set them on fire. They then returned safely to base, God be praised.

[Dated] 4 November 1987

Communique No 2,899

JN041807 Bagdhad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Communique No 2,899 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 4 November]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. Pursuant to our Communique No 2,898 issued this afternoon, our daring Air Force continued to pound the mainstays of aggression. By so doing, they embody the vigor of our people and highlight the collapse of the Khomeyniite clique from the blows of justice. In addition to the missions mentioned in the above communique, our daring aircraft carried out the following:

a. At 1300, several of our aircraft penetrated enemy air defenses, raided Khark Island, and dealt a destructive blow to the island's western terminal.

b. While carrying out the above, our aircraft sighted a large maritime target anchored near the terminal. They dealt it an accurate and effective blow.

c. Several other aircraft carried out destructive raids against the Pazanan oil fields at 1400.

d. At 1730 [1430 GMT], our aircraft dealt an accurate and effective blow to a very large maritime target off the Iranian coast. This is the third such target our aircraft pounced on today.

Our Air Force carried out 92 combat missions today in order to perform the activities in our above-mentioned communique, as well as other missions in the sectors of operations. After carrying out their duties, our aircraft returned safely to base with the exception of one, which crashed over enemy territory. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the life of its pilot.

2. A brave force of one of our units in the II Army Corps central sector raided enemy positions opposite its own. The force stormed the positions, destroyed them, and killed 11 enemy rogues. The force then returned safely to its positions.

3. Four enemy soldiers were killed and two infantry positions and two observation posts were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector. Two enemy soldiers were also killed in the Special I Army Corps sector—the Allahu Akbar Forces.

4. Four infantry positions and one machinegun position were destroyed, two vehicles and one personnel carrier were set on fire, and one ammunition dump was detonated in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

5. One enemy soldier was killed and one ammunition dump was detonated in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. Two infantry positions were destroyed and one ammunition dump was detonated in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

[Signed) The Armed Forces General Command, 4 November 1987

Jets Attack 'Large Maritime Target'

JN042006 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1948 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 4 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Air Force is determined to sever the Iranian regime's oil supply lifeline. This regime uses the revenues from this oil for aggression against our country. In order to cut this lifeline, our brave Air Force aircraft carried out a successful raid against a very large martime target off the Iranian coast at 2135. This is the fourth target today. After dealing it an accurate and effective blow, our aircraft returned safely to base, God be praised.

[Dated] 4 November 1987

Lloyds Confirms Iranian Tanker Hit

JN051129 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] London, 5 Nov (INA)—Britain's Lloyds Insurance Company today confirmed that the Iranian oil tanker "*Taftan*" was hit by a missile from Iraqi fighter planes raiding Iran's Khark Island yesterday.

In a cable to the INA office in London a short while ago, Lloyds said that the Iranian oil tanker was hit while sailing near Khark Island and that the extent of damage remains unknown. Lloyds pointed out that the 141,833-ton Iranian tanker was built in 1973 and is operated by the Iranian Oil Company.

Iraq announced yesterday that its warplanes had dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target while raiding the western terminal of Iran's Khark Island at 1300 [1000 GMT].

In a subsequent cable, Lloyds said that 70 percent of the cargo of the Iranian tanker "*Taftan*" was crude oil from Khark Island and that fires broke out on the vessel as a result of a missile fired by an Iraqi aircraft. Fires blazed for 8 and 1/2 hours before being extinguished. Two crewmen were wounded.

In its newscast today, the London-based BBC television Channel One also confirmed the report that Iraqi fighter planes had hit the Iranian tanker.

Denial Second Plane Downed

JN041905 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Nov (INA)—Iraq has rebutted Iranian claims that Iraqi aircraft raided civilian areas today. In a statement to INA this evening, an Iraqi military spokesman said that so far the Iraqi Air force's activities, including its missions today, have been restricted to raids against military and economic targets.

In another statement, the Iraqi military spokesman denied Iranian claims that a second Iraqi aircraft was shot down over Arab Gulf waters today. The spokesman said that all the Iraqi aircraft which carried out their duties over Iranian territory and the Arab Gulf waters today returned safely to base, with the exception of one, which crashed over Iranian territory.

The spokesman asserted that the Iranian claims of downing a second Iraqi aircraft are groundless and that Iraq makes an announcement whenever one of its aircraft is shot down.

Ramadan Comments on Results of Amman Visit

JN032132 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Nov 87

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, returned to Baghdad this afternoon following a short visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

In a statement to INA, the first deputy prime minister said that he had conveyed a message from his excellency, President Saddam Husayn, to His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on bilateral relations. He added that the message had also expressed the pride and appreciation of His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, the Iraqi leadership, and the Iraqi people for the exemplary ties binding the two fraternal states, as well as for Jordan's responsible pan-Arab stand on the side of Iraq in its defense of Arab sovereignty. He reported that he had apprised His Majesty King Husayn of the situation on the fronts and the Iraqi Armed Forces' readiness to exterminate the Khomeyniite aggressors. He said that he had briefed the Jordanian king on Iraq's eagerness to bring about peace and end the war.

The RCC member added that he had discussed with His Majesty King Husayn various issues related to convening the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman and Iraq's reiteration and eagerness to see this summit rise to the level of the challenges facing the nation. He indicated that His Majesty King Husayn had asserted Jordan's readiness to work jointly with Iraq to help make the resolutions of the Amman summit extraordinary in strength and significance, and he affirmed his absolute faith that this summit will make distinguished resolutions.

Taha Yasin Ramadan indicated that His Majesty King Husayn asked him to convey his greetings to His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, as well as his reiteration of Jordan's principled stand in its support for Iraq in the latter's defense of its territory and sovereignty. He asserted that His Majesty King Husayn had expressed pride over the victories being scored by the Iraqis under His Excellency President Saddam Husayn. These achievements elevate the Arabs' standing and are considered to be a source of pride for all Arabs.

Kirkuk Turks Want 'Democratic Party of Iraq'

NC031640 Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish 27 Oct 87 p 11

[Unattributed report: "The Kirkuk Turks Set Up a Party"]

[Excerpt] Frankfurt (TERCUMAN)—The Kirkuk Turks, who are living in Britain, have established the "Turkmen Democratic Party of Iraq" [Irak Turkmen Democratic Partisi] as a result of the oppression of the Turkish minority in that country. Turkish youths have disclosed that safeguarding the rights of all Turks in the Kirkuk region is the most important objective of their party.

The founders of the party, who claim that the number of Turks living in northern Iraq has dropped significantly, said that they will work to achieve the following:

"We wish to establish the Turkish Republic of Kirkuk. We shall struggle to achieve the independence of the Turkmen Republic in Iraq. We have demanded the release of the mujahidin arrested by the Iraqi Government. We demand that the Arabization of Kirkuk be halted. We also demand that the Iraqi Government stop the loans it has been making available to facilitate Arab concentration in the region. The Iraqi Government must abandon all its racial and political measures, which are aimed at suppressing the Turkish population. The Turkmen people in Iraq wish to be free to use the Turkish language and culture in a region where their use has been restricted.

We shall not relinquish our struggle until all this has been achieved." [passage omitted]

Armitage Arrives, Confers With Shamir, Peres

TA041427 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Nov 87 pp 1, 5

[Report by Re'uven Pedatzur and 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Armitage arrived in Israel yesterday on a working visit. He was joined by 'Amos Yaron, IDF attache in Washington, and Avraham Ben-Yosef, head of the Defense Ministry delegation in New York.

Armitage arrived in Israel to conduct discussions on the implementation of the understandings achieved with the United States as a result of the Lavi project cancellation. During his meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Armitage reiterated the U.S. commitments made to Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin prior to the Cabinet's decision to scrap the project. Shamir requested U.S. assistance to Israeli industry by means of common projects and production for the United States, as well as help in solving budgetary problems. Various ideas were discussed at the meeting, with Armitage reiterating the U.S. commitment in this field. He said that the decision to cancel the project was a correct and courageous one that would benefit Israel in the long run.

Shamir pointed out that these days marked the 4th anniversary of the U.S.-Israeli memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation. He said that he hoped the subject of assistance and cooperation resulting from the Lavi cancellation will make the same degree of good progress as the strategic cooperation agreement.

Another purpose of Armitage's visit is to hold discussions on the subject of closer strategic cooperation, on research and development in which the two countries have a common interest, and on what has been called "regional security." In spite of the fact that the subject of U.S. military aid is not on the agenda, it undoubtedly will be raised during the discussions.

Armitage met yesterday with Chief of Staff Dan Shomron for a working session. He later met with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. Today the visitor will meet with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and with David 'Ivri, the director general of his office.

In his meeting with the U.S. assistant secretary of defense, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres expressed his unreserved support for U.S. policy in the Persian Gulf. Contrary to Defense Minister Rabin's recent remarks in favor of ties with Iran, Peres told Armitage that the Israeli stand evolves from the fear of rising fundamentalism. He mentioned Turkey as a moderate and stabilizing factor in the face of radicalism in the area. [passage omitted]

Roundup of French Prime Minister's Visit

PM041626 Paris LE MONDE in French 4 Nov 87 p 7

[Jean-Pierre Langellier dispatch: "Israel: French Prime Minister's Visit"]

[Excerpts] Jerusalem—Chirac wanted to center his visit to Israel on three major issues: the peace process in the Near East, the defense of human rights, and a new boost to bilateral cooperation. The second day of the prime minister's visit, Monday, 2 November, faithfully reflected these three concerns. [passage omitted]

At the King David Hotel in the afternoon, Chirac received Israeli relatives of eight refuseniks, including mathematician Iosif Begun and engineers Aleksandr Kholmyanskiy and Lev Shapiro. Begun, 55, received his exit visa in September but refuses to leave the USSR unless his son Boris is authorized to leave with him. According to a reliable source, Chirac promised Shamir, who stressed the lamentable fate of Jews in "the countries of distress"— where they are deprived of all national rights or persecuted—that he would not visit Syria until the Damascus regime has made a "significant gesture" in favor of the last 2,000 Syrian Jews.

Chirac's talks with his hosts dealt at length with the Israeli-Arab peace process, though both sides had already said most of what they had to say during the previous day's discussions. During lunch, Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres reminded Chirac of the reasons which he believes militate in favor of an early unblocking of the negotiations—King Husayn's amenability, the improvement in the Soviet-U.S. political climate, the need to safeguard the state's Jewish character, and the absence of an alternative.

Monday's dinner in Shamir's honor gave the two men an opportunity to reaffirm their position, each in his own way. The French prime minister did so with tact and humor, Israel's with disarming frankness. "If there is one quality," Chirac said, "that the French recognize in the Israelis—and one that I recognize in you—it is tenacity, the legacy of a long past, which is simply the enduring expression of courage." However, the demarcation line between tenacity and stubbornness is often ill defined....

"I have told you repeatedly," he continued, "about the fear that prompted the maintenance of a precarious status quo...and our opposition to the acquisition of territories by force...It will certainly be necessary for both sides to make gestures, to start things moving. However, I am sure that Israel is capable of surprising everyone and taking the initiative that will impart a new course to the history of the region." Shamir was more direct: "The EC and we do not share the same opinion with regard to the international conference. We are convinced that it would be a display of anti-Israeli propaganda."

The third and final topic was bilateral scientific cooperation. Jacques Valade, minister delegate for research and higher education, and his Israeli counterpart, Gideon Patt, decided on the creation of a Franco-Israeli committee on development and cooperation in scientific and technological research. This body, which will comprise high-ranking officials and experts, will formulate plans, select teams, and monitor the use of funds.

Israel was hoping for the creation of a scientific foundation similar to those created to its advantage by the United States and the FRG. France rejected this plan, which is alien to its traditions and which would have absorbed state funds, interest on which could have financed a science budget. To compensate for this, the Foreign Ministry's allocation to scientific cooperation will be increased from Fr2.5 million to Fr5 million.

Chirac was due to make an official announcement on this doubling of credits Tuesday morning at a ceremony at the Weizman Institute in Rehovot, 25km from Tel Aviv. [passage omitted]

AL-QUDS on Results of Visit

TA041921 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 4 Nov 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Chirac and the Palestinian People"]

[Text] French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and his accompanying delegation concluded a 3-day visit to the country. The last place at which the visiting prime minister stopped was a meeting with a number of Palestinian notables from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, who reiterated the Palestinian people's hopes and aspirations by delivering a memorandum to Chirac that included all Palestinian principles.

Chirac responded to the Palestinian memorandum by affirming his own position and that of his country, which is committed to the need of the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination. He regarded the international peace conference with the participation of all parties to the conflict and the Security Council's permanent members as the only avenue for advancing the peace process, in addition to considering the PLO's participation in the work of the conference as a prerequisite for its success.

This position clearly expresses France's desire to keep alive the concept of the international conference. By viewing the reality of the Arab states, particularly with respect to the Palestinian problem, we see that France's positions are more defined and clearer than those of a considerable number of Arab countries.

The same applies to France's stance on direct aid to the residents of Arab lands in the economic, educational, and social spheres. The French prime minister affirmed his country's unequivocal support for the EEC decision allowing farmers in the occupied Arab lands to export their agricultural produce directly to European markets, as well as affirming direct aid to Palestinian institutions operating in the occupied areas.

With regard to Israel, Chirac's talks with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres did not result in any progress on the international conference. As French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond, who accompanied Chirac, said: This, however, does not mean that French efforts aimed at convening an international conference will cease. The primary aim of French foreign policy is to keep this concept alive, because its elimination means the collapse of all the hopes pinned on the possibility of establishing a comprehensive, durable, and just peace.

Chirac Message to Palestinians

TA041441 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 4 Nov 87 p 1

[Text] Through this newspaper, French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has sent a message to the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in which he states: Regardless of what I have been quoted as saying during my visit, I would like to confirm to you the following:

1. In the name of France, I affirm the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

2. France continues to adhere to the concept of an international peace conference with the participation of all parties to the conflict.

3. The PLO is a reality that cannot be ignored, and its effective participation in the proposed international peace conference is one prerequisite for the success of the conference.

4. France affirms its commitment to aiding the residents of the occupied Arab lands directly, as well as through the EEC, without interference from any party.

Peres Says Jordan 'Eager' To Achieve Peace

TA050805 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says that the economic difficulties in Jordan may accelerate the peace process with that country. Peres made this remark at a dinner given at the Knesset by the French branch of Keren Hayesod. [passage omitted]

Peres said that the Jordanians are also eager to achieve peace. They have no option, he affirmed, because the economic situation in Jordan is very difficult. Middle East states will not be able to finance a war because of the high rate of reproduction and the large number of mouths to feed. Israel must make an effort to achieve peace while it is strong and can accomplish this.

No Change Seen in Egypt's Stand on Peace Treaty

TA051158 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 5 Nov 87 p 2

[Report by Yona Kohen]

[Excerpt] What is our reaction to the Egyptian defense minister's declaration that Egypt's commitment to the Arab defense agreement has priority over its commitment to the Camp David accords, Knesset Member Ge'vla Kohen asked in the Knesset.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres replied that Israel is still trying to clarify exactly what Egyptian Minister Abu Ghazalah said. Our position is that the peace agreement is the determining factor, and it appears that Egypt thinks otherwise. Nevertheless, Peres does not believe that there has been a change in the Egyptian position with regard to honoring the peace agreement with Isreal. [passage omitted]

Labor Proposes Moscow Meeting With PLO Group

TA041825 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 4 Nov 87 pp 1, 11

[Text] *Al-Quds* has learned that a group of Israeli Labor Party activists recently conveyed a proposal to PLO leaders to hold an expanded meeting in Moscow between a Labor Party delegation that will include prominent figures and Knesset members and a PLO delegation.

It has been learned that Aryeh Hess, who heads the confederative group in the Labor Party, is the one who made this proposal after consulting with several Labor Party Knesset members from the party's dovish wing. These members expressed readiness to take part in such a meeting if it is held in Moscow.

Hess has been quoted as saying that if this meeting takes place he will propose to the PLO leaders the concept of establishing a confederation between Israel, Jordan, and a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

USSR Urged To Promote Syria-PLO Rapprochement

TA041804 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 2 Nov 87 p 1

[Editorial: "'Arafat in Moscow"]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat yesterday began an official visit to the Soviet Union, during which he will hold important talks with Soviet officials covering the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas.

This visit is the culmination of the unceasing efforts by Palestinian diplomacy aimed at attracting international support for the idea of convening an international conference for peace in the region. This is the idea that the United States and Israel are trying to abort and drain of its noble contents, which affirm the right of the Palestinian people to gain their legitimate rights.

'Arafat's visit to Moscow represents one of the initiatives launched by Palestinian diplomacy for the success of an international peace conference. Soviet participation in this conference constitutes a basic element that Israel and the United States are striving to use as blackmail to get the Soviet Union to make concessions in renewing relations with Israel.

There is not the slightest doubt that the talks 'Arafat will hold with Soviet leaders will have an exceptionally compounded significance in view of the daily developments taking place in the Arab and international arenas. These developments caused a setback to the wave of optimism on an approaching Middle East peace conference after all the efforts for convening this conference collided with the wall of Israeli intransigence, which enjoys continuous U.S. support.

Hence, we view 'Arafat's visit to Moscow as a first step leading to broader measures aimed at thwarting U.S. and Israeli efforts to torpedo all attempts to establish a just and lasting peace in the region.

We note with appreciation the Soviet leadership's continuous support for legitimate Palestinian rights and its contribution to the restoration of unity in the Palestinian arena by sponsoring the national dialogue meetings that preceded the unifying 18th PNC session in Algeria this year. We hope that this leadership will continue its efforts toward restoring Syrian-Palestinian relations to their previous status and open Syrian doors to the PLO's legitimate leadership in view of the immense significance these relations have. This is true particularly now, when U.S. steps are making some advances at the expense of Arab causes due to the fact that the Arabs are suffering from a state of indifference, weakness, and discord.

Thus it is clear that the Palestinian move in the international arena constitutes an interpretation of Palestinian foundations and principles enjoying total support and backing from the Soviet leadership. What is causing confidence in the success of the continuous Palestinian move in the international arena perhaps is that this move is based on the resolutions of international authority, which has often called for the need to convene an international conference on peace in the Middle East as the practical and possible avenue for establishing a just and durable peace in the region.

Soviets Considering Palestinian Confederation

TA051138 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 5 Nov 87 p 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] The Soviet Union is currently considering changing its formula for a solution to the Palestinian problem and is about to support a confederation solution. The *'Al*

Hamishmar correspondent has learned that this is expected to be one of the main issues in PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's talks in Moscow.

The Soviet Union currently supports an independent Palestinian state which would be bassed on the principle of self-determination. It can be presumed that the Soviet Union will not abandon this formula, but will add the confederation concept to it.

Since the PNC meeting in Algeria, 'Arafat has supported the idea of a binational state, but he has also mentioned exploring the confederation solution in a sought-after meeting with Minister 'Ezer Weizman.

The confederation principle is also acceptable in Shamir's circles, and the Soviet Union apparently wants to leave those in the Likud who are afraid to enter into negotiations with the PLO without a leg to stand on.

Interests Officer Appointed to Hungary

TA051222 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Nov 87 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Last week Israel appointed an interests officer who will represent it in Hungary, according to a reliable source in the Foreign Ministry.

The Foreign Ministry appointments committee chose Shlomo Marom, who is currently serving as deputy director of the Foreign Ministry's Center for Political Research. Marom's family comes from Hungary. In the past, he served in the Israeli Embassy in Washington. It was decided not to make the appointment public at the request of the Hungarians, who prefer to maintain a "low profile" on relations with Israel.

Ministers Try To Renew Broadcasts in Arabic

TA031926 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 3 Nov 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by Imanu'el Rosen and Ilana Baum]

[Excerpt] The prime minister, the defense minister, and the education minister have recently held several discussions aimed at finding a way to resume radio and television broadcasts in Arabic, but so far to no avail.

Sources in the defense establishment say that the strike in the Arabic department is causing enormous security damage that is cumulative and irreversible, since Arabs both in the territories and in Israel have now been exposed for a month to one-sided propaganda broadcasts by the neighboring states.

Particular anxiety has been expressed over broadcasts to be aired during the Arab summit in Amman in a week's time.

In their discussions, the prime minister and the two ministers examined the possibility of issuing back-to-work orders to the striking Arabic radio and television personnel, but it was decided to refrain from this measure for the time being. The minister of education has relayed the defense establishment's special request for Broadcasting Authority workers to resume the Arabic broadcasts. [passage omitted]

Probe of Nafsu Interrogators Ordered To Stop

TA041235 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Nov 87 p 1

[Report by Bernard Josephs]

[Text] The police investigation of Shin Bet interrogators involved in the 'Izzat Nafsu scandal has been ordered halted by Attorney-General Yosef Harish, it was confirmed last night.

Harish gave the order in a telephone conversation with Police Inspector-General David Kraus yesterday morning. A spokeswoman for the Justice Ministry said the investigation may be resumed later.

She added that the decision to call off the probe was based on the Landau Commission report on the Shin Bet, which said security agents routinely lied in court and used illegal interrogation techniques, but recommended that no one be prosecuted for past misdeeds.

"I can confirm that the investigation of the Shin Bet officials has been broken off, but I can't give any other details except that it is in response to what is contained in the Landau report," she said.

Nafsu, a former IDF officer, was released from prison five months ago after being cleared of espionage and treason charges for which he had served seven and a half years of an 18-years sentence. He is suing the government for NIS 1.3 million in compensation.

Police were on the verge of completing their investigation of the Shin Bet agents who questioned Nafsu and are accused of using illegal physical pressure on him and of lying in court during his trial.

The probe had been held up twice before. In July, the Shin Bet delayed handing over documents on the Nafsu case despite explicit orders from Harish. The papers contained Shin Bet debriefings of Nafsu's interrogators.

A short while later the investigation was again stopped in reponse to political pressure and because of the establishment of the Landau Commission. The police were told to go back to work in September.

Soldiers Sentenced for Mistreating Detainees

TA031641 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
3 Nov 87 p 4

[Report by Eytan Rabin]

[Excerpt] The Southern District Military Court headed by Colonel Yoram Zelenkowitz yesterday meted out actual and suspended prison sentences to five soldiers who were accused of maltreating detainees at the "Ansar-2" facility in Gaza, an affair which was first exposed by *Ha'aretz*.

The indictment against the six [as published] soldiers, including a lieutenant who served as the regional military police commander, noted that the accused had mistreated detainees from Gaza who had been rounded up in riots. The maltreatment included the beating and kicking of youths aged 12 to 16 amid remarks such as, "Is there somebody here who wants to play football?" and "It's fun to play ping pong with them!"

In their verdict the judges said that these were serious deeds, and that they believed the testimonies of the reservists who had appeared in court as witnesses for the prosecution. [passage omitted]

Commentary Views Reported Shamir-Husayn Meeting

TA031756 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
3 Nov 87 p 13

[Commentary by Dan Margalit: "A Meeting, Half A Meeting"]

[Text] The meeting last summer between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and King Husayn, which was reported by the U.S. magazine *Newsweek* yesterday (and which was denied by the Prime Minister's Office), demonstrates the tactical-evasive nature of the Likud's demand for direct negotiations with Jordan.

Diplomatic sources in the State Department publicized the meeting presumably after having despaired of both sides: of Shamir's obstinate refusal to accord the international conference the status of a framework; and of Husayn's hesitancy to hold contacts under the auspices of the two superpowers. Shamir would seem to have nothing to offer the Jordanians. The international conference is the minimum Jordan wants, and it was after this fact became evident that Shamir stepped up his opposition. This encouraged him to believe that under the guise of his objection to this procedural matter he would be able to block the issue itself.

Husayn distinguished between Shim'on Peres' wish to attain an agreement and the Likud's position. This was seen as an intervention in the Israeli Government's internal affairs, as well as a consequence of the impressions he had received following his meetings with various Israeli figures. These talks demonstrated to him the differences in the approaches of the two largest political blocs in Israel.

He realized that the prime minister did not have any plausible plan despite his reiterations that he had some original ideas up his sleeve. What is left of those so-called ideas? How many times can Israel propose to Jordan free access to a port and roads to the Mediterranean Sea, or an autonomy called self-rule which is nothing but a semblance of what is stipulated in the Camp David accords? How many times can one repeat Shamir's utterance that "if they do not want it, then it is too bad"? Well, the status quo is not all that bad.

On the contrary, the prime minister is convinced that he has nothing to say to the moderate Jordanian leader. That being the case, any relevant discussion would be merely a political complication.

The meeting reported by *Newsweek* is probably what Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, had in mind when he said that Shamir had taken two secret initiatives to promote peace. The second failed initiative most probably was the move to have himself invited to the Soviet Union. This also failed, and even had it not fallen through it would have yielded no results.

The Likud and the parties associated with it feel that they have reached a dead end. They know that Shamir is posing impossible conditions which nip any initiative in the bud. But they also realize that the demographic problem is becoming increasingly distressing. Knesset members note that in their public appearances this question comes up more than in the past. The denunciation of Moshe 'Amirav by Herut was not meant to punish him, but to deter others who realize that the present situation cannot go on. Such a political lynching was not carried out against party members who advocate the notion of transferring Arabs outside the boundaries of Eretz Yisra'el.

On the contrary, the idea of a transfer has been given legitimacy. After Minister Yosef Shapira proposes it to the National Religious Party [NRP], somebody will submit it to the Likud institutions for an official debate, and that somebody will not be alone.

Although in a democratic country people are entitled to voice their positions and views, and although Mikha'el Deqel, Shapira, and their friends talk about the voluntary removal of Arabs, it would seem that even in a free society there is a limit to the right to harass neighbors. One does not go to one's next-door neighbors every day and offer them good money for their apartment even if this involves no coercion and is done with a smiling face.

These proposals, which attest to the belief of their authors that Kahanism has penetrated the Likud's and NRP's central committees, aim not only at raising their popularity within their parties, but can also undermine the Arabs' self-confidence. They may lead Israeli Arabs and the inhabitants of the territories to believe that this is not "the end of the story" and that the security they feel in their homes and land is about to disappear.

This is a dangerous trend which will become more accentuated as extremists on both sides succeed in preventing relevant negotiations. A great deal now depends on the Arab leaders. Were they to find a moderate formula that would enable the rehabilitation of the international conference idea with the PLO lying low, and were they to exploit the resumption of high-level contacts between the Americans and the Soviets, they would be doing away with some of the obstacles Israel's rejectionists latch on to. The speed with which the Soviet Union resumed the path of dialogue with the United States should be an encouraging ray of hope for the moderate leaders of the Arab world.

Husayn Cables Gromyko on GOSR Anniversary

JN051436 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn today sent a cable to His Excellency Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, congratulating him in his own name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on the 70th anniversary of the Socialist Revolution.

His majesty affirmed that the existing ties of friendship and understanding between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the USSR will always prompt us to further joint action to strengthen the existing good relations between the two countries in the service of their two friendly peoples and to achieve a just and permanent peace in the Middle East.

His majesty wished Chairman Gromyko good health and profound happiness and the friendly Soviet people continuous progress and prosperity.

Husayn Addresses Military College Graduates

JN011546 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1219 GMT 1 Nov 87

["Full" text of King Husayn's speech at graduation ceremony for 25th class at the Royal Military College on 1 November—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother graduators, honorable greetings:

It is a time of pride to see those blessed vanguards of the Royal Military College joining the ranks of our brave Armed Forces—the fortress of manliness and honor; the factory of heroic deeds and sacrifice; and the symbol of manners, discipline, and affiliation. These graduates have obtained knowledge and an education from this institute in addition to the experience of its elite officers and trainers. [passage omitted]

Almighty God has bestowed success on us so that the leaders' meeting in Amman this month has become the hope for overcoming the causes of estrangement and surmounting the elements of fragmentation. We are aware of the heavy responsibility placed on us. Challenges are numerous and our peoples' legitimate aspirations are many. Since we know that meetings will bring us closer, that discussing our issues will converge us, and that finding solutions to the causes of our estrangement will strenghten our stands and increase our determination to confront the growing challenges facing us, we have high hopes that the Amman summit will be a new beginning for the Arabs' good and for pan-Arab security.

Brother graduates, while endeavoring to build an effective Arab stand through the Amman summit, we realize that we should continue to build our intrinsic power and reinforce our defensive capabilities. But while working to achieve this objective, we assert that we seek peace—peace based on rights and justice that will return territory to their legitimate owners; bring Jerusalem back to its Arab and Islamic identity; end usurpation, Judaization, and coercion; and return security and serenity to the land of peace.

This is what we endeavor to achieve, and this is our consistent stand, which emanates from our pan-Arab principles. This stand is based on serving the objectives of our Arab nation and adheres to protecting Arab soil and heritage. This stand is always in harmony with the UN Charter, as well as the provisions and bases of international law. We will continue to be committed to this stand and will adhere to these principles until our land, kinfolk, and sanctities are liberated from the occupier's grip and the aggressor's injustice and until the Arab banner flutters again over the hills of Jerusalem so that the generations' confidence in their nation and future will be consolidated.

Men, you are the asset and the vanguards of the day. So prepare yourselves and remain ready.

May God grant you success, protect you, and guide your steps on the path of good. May peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you. [applause]

Soviet Envoy on King's Visit to Moscow, Gulf War

JN050953 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 5 Nov 87 pp 1, 24

[Excerpt] Amman—Aleksandr Zinchuk, Soviet ambassador to Jordan, has said he is confident that his majesty's anticipated visit to Moscow will be a major event in the course of the successful and developed bilateral relations which, in less than a year will be 25 years old. This visit, he added, will open up new horizons for the enhancement of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Jordan. It will also strongly emphasize the high level of bilateral understanding and trust. He said: We are greatly satisfied with what has been accomplished along the path of consolidating these relations. The same applies to the official and personal ties between the Soviets and Jordanians.

Addressing a celebration held by the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society, in cooperation with the Soviet cultural center, at the Professional Unions' building yesterday on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution, Zinchuk said: We highly value the distinguished relations between our country and the Arab states. We are eager to promote Soviet-Arab cooperation in all spheres. The Palestinian Arab people's just issue and heroic struggle for the realization of their legitimate rights enjoy our country's warm and profound sympathy.

Therefore, the Soviet Union supports the convening of a plenipotentiary international Middle East peace conference in which all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict will

participate. We also support UN Security Council Resolution 598, which was adopted unanimously and which specified the way to end the Iraq-Iran war.

Regarding current developments in the Soviet Union and their impact on foreign policy, the ambassador said: The process of restructuring the economic, social, and political spheres of life in our country forces us to reconsider those issues which we thought were already solved or were impossible to solve.

Today we view our accomplishments and setbacks from new positions and we tirelessly search for the means to continue along the road whose landmarks were fixed by Lenin, founder of the Soviet Union, in October 1917. This also applies to Soviet foreign policy which is greatly influenced by the logic of the new political thinking. This policy is being restructured on more realistic and positive bases and in keeping with the requirements of the present stage.

High among the Soviet objectives, he said, is the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. The first step in this regard is the Soviet-U.S. agreement to abolish intermediate and tactical missiles. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia Pays Third Aid Installment

JN041658 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Finance Minister Dr Hanna 'Awdah has stated that fraternal Saudi Arabia has paid Jordan the third installment amounting to $119,047,630 for the year of 1987 as part of the Arab aid allocated by the Baghdad summit. This reflects the Saudi Government's eagerness to fulfull its commitments toward its fraternal Arab confrontation countries.

Sa'adah Views Talks With Al-Jumayyil, Ja'ja'
NC051359 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Excerpts] A meeting was held at the presidential palace in Ba'abda under the chairmanship of President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. It was attended by Phalangist Party leader Dr George Sa'adah and Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Samir Ja'ja'.

Dr Sa'adah said that the discussions had dealt with the Arab summit and the general strike carried out by the labor unions. He added that current problems cannot be tackled except by changing the government. He also stressed that the Phalangist Party opposes the adoption of negative stands which might exacerbate the crisis. He stated:

[Begin recording] [Sa'adah] Regarding the meeting, it is known that his excellency, the president, will attend the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman at the end of this week. There also is the matter of the general strike by the General Labor Unions Federation and its demands. Thus, it was natural for us to meet with his excellency, the president, and consult on these matters, which are closely related to all the issues of interest to the people. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified correspondent] [Words indistinct] about the strike?

[Sa'adah] The strike is in its first day. Its demands are just. The big question is how these demands can be fulfilled. Can a mere strike satisfy all the people's demands? We have a firm stand on this issue which we have repeatedly declared; namely, that these issues cannot be tackled except by forming a new government that will tackle the people's problems instead of immersing itself in its own internal disputes.

[Correspondent] [Words indistinct] memo to the Arab summit?

[Sa'adah] The memo is not ready yet. We are still preparing it.

[Correspondent] Will you support a continuation of the strike if the demands are not fulfilled?

[Sa'adah] [Words indistinct] at a time. We will decide in light of new developments and available resources. But, as we have said from the beginning, the General Labor Unions Federation has declared the strike. Unless the strike begins to deviate from its natural course, we view this as a labor issue in which we do not interfere at all. We support the just demands but are opposed to the adoption of negative stands which might exacerbate the crisis.

[Correspondent] Did you discuss party affairs?

[Sa'adah] [Words indistinct] party issues are discussed at the (?party headquaraters) and not outside it. [end recording]

Fadlallah, Shams al-Din Reject Muslim President
NC051157 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Three Muslim leaders have rejected the call for a Muslim candidate to run for the office of president. A source in the office of Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, the spiritual guide of Hizballah, said that Shaykh Fadlallah is not at all interested in the idea, which could only be seen as a joke meant to cause a sensation. The election of a Muslim president, the source said, could spoil the chances to establish a Muslim state in Lebanon.

For his part, Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din termed the idea irresponsible and said that no one is backing it.

Earlier, Shaykh Sha'ban had said that the Lebanese regime should be brought down before any candidates for the presidency are named.

An organization calling itself the Islamic Current [Al-Tayyar al-Islamiy] had distributed leaflets in West Beirut calling on Muslims to select one of four candidates for the presidency: Shaykh Sadiq Musawi, Shaykh Husayn Fadlallah, Shaykh Muhammad Shams al-Din, or Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban.

Kidnapped Insurance Company Director Released
NC051217 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1207 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] At the end of this newscast, we wish to note a report that we received a short time ago. Badr al-Fahum [chairman of the Board of Directors and director general of the Arab Insurance Company] was released this morning and has returned home. He was kidnapped in West Beirut 2 weeks ago.

Resistance Attacks Israelis; Casualties Noted
NC041519 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Islamic resistance fighters today launched a successful and daring attack on a position jointly manned by Israeli troops and their agents in Bra'shit.

As a result of the attack, which was carried out by 180 resistance fighters, the position was seized and held by the resistance fighters for some time.

Additionally, 30 Israeli troops and Lahd agents were killed and 25 others were wounded. The attack caused the destruction of two tanks, three armored personnel carriers, and several vehicles. Three resistance fighters were wounded in the fighting. The resistance

fighters managed to capture a number of machineguns, a mortar, wireless equipment, and a large quantity of ammunition and hardware.

Amal-Palestinian Agreement To Take Effect 6 Nov

JN041832 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Amal leader Nabih Birri arrived in Paris today and was admitted to a French hospital for a medical check-up.

Earlier, Birri was in Algiers where he signed a new agreement on ending the camps war in Lebanon with some Palestinian factions.

The DFLP affirmed that implementation of the agreement will begin as of 6 November and expressed optimism regarding its success.

Indefinite General Strike Begins 5 Nov

NC051025 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Excerpt] An indefinite general strike began this morning in most areas and sectors. Hospitals, pharmacies, and bakeries are not participating in the strike. The newspapers will be on strike today and tomorrow. [passage omitted]

MEA Suspends Flights

NC041719 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] The Middle East Airlines [MEA] Company issued a statement today, saying that it will suspend its flights from and to Beirut International Airport on Thursday, 5 November, on the occasion of the general strike. The company will announce its flight schedule tomorrow in light of subsequent developments and current consultations.

Amal Supports Strike

NC041751 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] The Amal Movement holds the regime responsible for the current deterioration in Lebanon. The Movement urged citizens to marshal all their resources to overthrow all officials, foremost among them the head of the regime. It accused him of being the basic and chief element responsible for prolonging and exacerbating the crisis and for undermining all initiatives and solutions worked out to end the Lebanese crisis.

In accordance with its stands, the Movement voices its support for the indefinite strike provided that it is guided by the principle of bringing about the overthrow of the regime and the government preparatory to establishing the internal peace and accord which represent the foundations of war against Israel.

Libyans Reportedly Recruiting Sunnis in Al-Biqa'

NC050857 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 3 Nov 87 p 6

[Text] Hasbayya, *Al-Nahar*—The Libyan "Arab Brotherhood Bureau" recently opened a center in Al-Suwayri (western Al-Biqa') to enlist volunteers from the Sunni community to fight beside the Libyan Army in Chad. The recruits are offered, among other incentives, Libyan nationality for them and their families.

A token Libyan force of 200 soldiers had been stationed in Al-Suwayri in 1982; that is, 7 km from the area occupied by the Israeli forces.

Explosion Near Syrian Checkpoint in Beirut

NC042107 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] An explosive device went off tonight at a taxi office in the Snawbarah area [of West Beirut] where Syrian intelligence men usually gather. The explosion occurred 50 meters from the Syrian Army checkpoint in the Bristol Hotel area, injuring several people who were moved to the American University of Beirut Hospital.

Earlier, a rocket had been fired at the eastern side of the Burj al-Murr building where a Syrian unit is stationed.

The Liberation Battalion telephoned our radio to claim responsibility for the two operations. It also issued a statement urging all sections of the people to exploit the general strike, to direct it against the Syrian occupation, and to mobilize their resources to terminate this occupation in Lebanon.

Syrians, Amal Gunmen Clash on Airport Road

NC041537 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Our correspondent has reported that a clash took place between Syrian forces and Amal Movement gunmen along the Beirut airport road this afternoon. An ambulance was brought to the scene of the fighting, which lasted until 1630, but there are no details on the number of casualties.

Security Committee Tries to Halt Suburb Clashes

NC050630 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] We have just received the following report: The Central Security Committee is holding contacts to stop clashes which broke out this morning on the Al-Tayyunah combat lines [in the southern suburb]. Shellfire is being heard in areas far from the combat lines.

'Guarded' Calm Prevails

NC051021 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Guarded calm prevails on the combat lines of Beirut's southern suburb following clashes which took place this morning on the Al-Tayyunah-Dar al-Kitab and Al-Shiyah-'Ayn al-Rummanah lines.

Afghanistan

Nur Chairs Revolutionary Council Session

LD042211 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] An extraordinary session of the Revolutionary Council was held today, Wednesday, 4 November 1987, in the Delkosha Palace. It was chaired by Comrade Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and deputy president of the Revolutionary Council.

The Revolutionary Council endorsed an amendment to the Basic Principles of the DRA, which was proposed by Ghulam Muhyiadin Amir, secretary of the Revolutionary Council Presidium. The amendment seeks to further develop the principles of national unity and the expansion of democracy in our independent country, as well as the expression of viewpoints and the determination of the people with regard to national and international affairs and with respect to the fact that national sovereignty in the DRA belongs to the people.

At the Revolutionary Council session, it was emphasized that the second nationwide party conference was held at a particularly sensitive time, confirming the views of Haji Muhammad Chamkani, vice president of the DRA Revolutionary Council. The conference determined new methods of work and struggle for the people, party, and state. The resolutions and decisions of the nationwide conference, which was a great political event for the party, state, and people of Afghanistan, were made in an atmosphere of unity, which strengthened the national reconciliation policy and created new prospects in the economic, political, scandal, and cultural fields.

The Revolutionary Council session passed a resolution confirming the resolutions and decisions of the second nationwide PDPA conference.

The Revolutionary Council issued a decree endorsing the statute concerning the convening and activities of the Grand Assembly.

Today's session of the Revolutionary Council ended in complete unity and solidarity. The national anthem was played at the end of the session.

Ziray, Mozdak Attend DYOA Meeting 2 Nov

LD050723 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0419 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Kabul, November 4, *Bakhtar*—The extraordinary plenum of the Central Committee (CC) of the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan (DYOA) for the realisation of the decisions and resolutions of the second nation-wide conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) was held here on Monday [2 November].

Saleh Muhammad Ziray, Politburo member and secretary of the PDPA CC, Farid Ahmad Mozdak, alternate Politburo member of the PDPA CC and first secretary of the DYOA, and some members of Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and some members of the Council of Ministers of the DRA participated in the work of the plenum.

At the outset of the plenum, Mozdak delivered a report in relation to the undelayable tasks of the committees and organisations of the Central Committee of Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan (DYOA) on the realisation of the decisions of the second nation-wide conference of the PDPA.

Assessing the works of the plenum Saleh Muhammad Ziray said [words indistinct]. Party demands you that you should transform schools into the centers of tireless work for the realisation of the policy of national reconciliation and strongholds of peace.

Participants of the plenum unanimously approved a congratulatory message on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution addressed to the Central Committee of the Leninist Komsomol of the Soviet Union.

Resistance Group Joins National Reconciliation

LD042220 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] A group of 150 armed men under the command of Abdol Ghani gave up fighting yesterday and joined the process of national reconciliation in the village of Sar Kan in the Shindand District of Herat Province.

According to a BIA reporter, these copatriots of ours were welcomed by state and party officials and the noble people of the villages of Shindand. During a meeting held in their honor, the commander of the group vowed to work for the prosperity of the people and the cause of peace and tranquility.

According to another report, because this group joined the national reconciliation process, 800 families comprising 2,000 people, who were wandering in the mountains, have returned to their native villages and have resumed their peaceful life. They have formed a tribal regiment to ensure peace in their villages.

Bangladesh

Agreement Reached With India on Ganges Talks

BK041432 Dhaka Overseas Service in English
1230 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Bangladesh and India have agreed to start talks to augment water flows of the common rivers. The agreement was reached when President Ershad and Prime

Minister Rajiv Gandhi met in Kathmandu yesterday. They also reached an understanding on a secretary-level meeting to discuss water resources development.

Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury told newsmen after the meeting that the two leaders agreed to start bilateral talks this month on the sharing of the Ganges water. He said they discussed the entire range of relations, including unresolved issues. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi informed President Ershad about the process of completion of handing over of Tin Bigha corridor to Bangladesh. He said administrative and legal formalities (?were in) final stage.

President Ershad informed the Indian prime minister that a congenial atmosphere was created in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region for the return home of Chakma [tribal] refugees. He also told him about the minister-level committee set up to deal with the problems of the Chakma community in the country. Both President Ershad and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi expressed their satisfaction over the existing good-neighborly relations between Bangladesh and India.

Earlier, President Ershad had a meeting with President Junius Jayewardene of Sri Lanka. The two leaders discussed the scope of extended cooperation between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in various fields.

Ershad Returns Home From SAARC Summit

BK041326 Dhaka Overseas Service in English
1230 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] President Ershad returned home Wednesday [4 November] afternoon from Kathmandu after attending the third SAARC summit. He was accompanied by Begum Raushan Ershad. The president was received at the Zia International Airport by Vice President Nurul Islam.

India

Dialogue With Pakistan To Resume Within Weeks

BK041636 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] India and Pakistan are to resume their dialogue on a number of outstanding issues in the next few weeks in a new effort to normalize their relations. This decision was taken at a meeting between the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Pakistan prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, who had a long meeting in Kathmandu.

The foreign secretaries and the defense secretaries will meet to discuss the Siachen issue. The finance and planning secretaries will also meet at an early date. The Indo-Pakistan joint commission will meet later. Mutually acceptable dates for all the meetings are being worked out.

The AIR special correspondent, Manohar Takroo, reports that on the all-important question of Pakistan working for a nuclear weapon, Mr Gandhi strongly impressed upon Mr Junejo the serious consequences of such a program. He told him that it would cause problems of a nuclear arms race in the subcontinent and it will be Pakistan that would be responsible for what follows. Mr Junejo said that Pakistan has only modest nuclear programs, but he had no answer when Mr Gandhi pointed out to him that they are producing and using disproportionate quantities of uranium.

On the question of Siachen, the prime minister pointed out that Indian posts have been attacked, and they had given Pakistan a fitting reply.

In an informal chat later, on board the aircraft while flying back to New Delhi, Mr Gandhi said that he gave a list of 14 outstanding subjects to Mr Junejo on which Pakistan's response is awaited. These cover a broad spectrum ranging from trade and joint ventures to exchange of newspapers and magazines.

Asked when the names of the three companies who had got money in the Bofors deal would be made public, Mr Gandhi said the government needs time because CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] and other enforcement agencies must complete their investigations. In any case, it will only establish that what the government has been saying was right.

Prime Minister Speaks on Sri Lanka, Siachen

BK041310 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] The prime minister has made it clear that a cease-fire by the peacekeeping force in Jaffna depends upon the LTTE. It must agree to abide by the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement, give up violence, and hand over arms. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was speaking to newsmen at Delhi Airport this afternoon on his return from Kathmandu after attending the SAARC summit.

The prime minister refuted the allegations that the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement was signed under pressure. He noted that the agreement has brought about stability in the region.

Mr Gandhi said India has categorically told Pakistan not to attack the Indian posts at Siachen. He said the Siachen issue was raised by the Pakistan prime minister during bilateral talks. He was told that it was only their attack on our posts which is creating a problem.

Replying to a question, the prime minister ruled out any midterm poll to the Lok Sabha.

Sri Lankan President Arrives for Talks

BK050939 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] The Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, arrived in New Delhi this afternoon on a 3-day visit. He was received at the airport by the president, Mr Venkataraman; the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; and others. Mr Jayewardene is accompanied by his wife; his brother, Mr Hector Jayewardene; and the land development minister, Mr Dissanayake.

President Jayewardene, who is now on his way back home from Kathmandu after attending the SAARC summit, will have wide-ranging discussions with the prime minister on matters of mutual interest. Mr Gandhi is hosting a lunch today in honor of the visiting dignitary.

Punjab 'Terrorists' Attack Bank, Kill Cashier

BK040954 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] In Punjab, three terrorists attacked a commercial bank in village (Satkoha) in Gurdaspur District this morning and shot dead its cashier. The terrorists looted about 52,000 rupees from the bank and escaped. The police and paramilitary forces have launched a massive manhunt for the culprits.

Iran

Reportage on Events Marking Unity Week

Khamene'i Message To Muslims

LD050909 Tehran IRNA in English 0843 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 5, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i in a message on the occasion of the Unity Week (beginning today) called upon all Muslim nations to get united.

The message issued in Arabic Wednesday night said the holy Koran has invited Muslims to unite and has urged them to avoid schism.

Sunni Muslims mark Rabi' al-Awwal 12 as the birth anniversary of prophet (SAW) while Shi'ites celebrate Rabi' al-Awwal 17 as the occasion. Unity Week (Rabi' al-Awwal 12-17) has been initiated by Ayatollah Montazeri in an attempt to bring Shi'as and Sunnis closer together.

The president said in his message that the Islamic community in recent years has been suffering from disunity and big powers are sowing discord among Muslims. At present, he added, Muslims who make up more than one fifth of the world population are practically among the weakest and are oppressed and do not play their role in the world.

The main reason for this, the message said, is disunity among Muslims imposed upon them under the pretext of race, nationality, and ethnicity. Imperialism through its cultural and political efforts has made Muslims believe that geographical boundaries are more important than faith and belief and has thus made Muslims hostile towards one another, it said.

President Khamene'i stressed that the best crystalisation of Muslim unity is their encounter with blasphemy and world oppressors and that Muslims throughout the world should campaign against enemies of Islam led by the Great Satan—the U.S.

Now that real Islam is being practised in Iran and the Islamic Republic of Iran has been established, the world oppressors fearing the unity and awakening of Muslims, have directed their plots against Iran, the message added.

Governments ruling over Muslim countries, it continued, should consider unity of Muslims and struggle against schism as one of their great tasks.

The Iraqi war mongering and anti-Islamic regime by fanning the flames of the war is the main element of disunity and, therefore, the governments and nations should condemn and weaken it.

The president stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran inviting all Muslims for unity, strongly rejects any divisive moves and considers such efforts as satanic attempts.

Commentary Urges Unity Against U.S.

NC050951 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0650 GMT 5 Nov 87

[From the "Voice of the Front" feature]

[Text] We congratulate the heroic Iranian nation for its presence on the fronts of truth versus falsehood! What could be sweeter for us than avenging the blood of all our martyrs, shattering the idol of imperialism and oppression, sharpening our talons against its filthy claws, and staining the turbulent waters of the south with the blood of its military aggressors! In the week of readiness for presence at the fronts of truth versus falsehood, the entire Iranian nation will—through its presence on the scene—once again display its steadfast resolve and determination.

Once again we declare: O world oppression! The heroic Iranian nation is ready to teach another lesson to the arch Satan through martyrdom-seeking operations! The week of readiness for presence on the fronts will once again make the arch Satan tremble with fear! Today U.S. imperialism has sunk into the mire and sands of the Persian Gulf in an attempt to retrieve its lost prestige; it is in a quagmire. This is one of the fruits of our major

Islamic revolution. The week of readiness for presence on the fronts is one during which the entire heroic Iranian nation must prepare for fighting the United States!

Fadlallah Sends Message

LD041932 Tehran IRNA in English 1746 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Beirut, Nov. 4, IRNA—Since the forces of blasphemy have made common cause against Islam, it is incumbent upon all Muslims [to] close ranks and disappoint their common foes, said Lebanon's prominent religious leader Al-Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, here today.

In a message released on the eve of the unity week (Nov. 5-12) Fadlallah said such a unity will not only protect Islam from blasphemy but it will also guarantee the interests of Muslims in the future.

Fadlallah continued unity is a fundamental part of the Islamic strategy and could create a coordinated move to ward off foreign dangers. The idea of unity as a strategy against all arrogant powers should be emphasised, he added.

Fadlallah stressed that resolving the Muslims' problems, which are a legacy of the colonialist rule, can help achieve Islamic unity and frustrate the enemy from infiltrating the ranks of the ummah.

Lebanon is an ideal place for realizing Islamic unity because of the solidarity of Shi'ites and Sunnis here, he added.

The Mufti (religious judge) of Sidon's Sunni Muslims Shaykh Salim Jalaleddin said that the life of Prophet Mohammad (SAW) offers the best example for all Muslims. He called on all Lebanese Muslims to support the Lebanese resistance and fight the Zionist regime and its mercenaries.

Amal Movement and the Union of Muslim Students of Lebanon issued separate statements on the the occasion of the unity week, called by the future leader of the Islamic Republic Ayatollah Husayn 'Ali Montazeri to mark prophet Mohammad's (SAW) birthday anniversary.

Further Reportage on 4 Nov Anti-U.S. Events

'Agents' Kill 2 Marchers

LD041718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Excerpt] According to the Central News Unit, the Muslim inhabitants of Mahabad, along with the inhabitants of other cities of our Islamic homeland, embarked today on a large and glorious march on the occasion of 4 November, the day of death to the United States. In this way they showed their contempt and hatred of the crimes committed by the United States in the region.

In the course of this march, while the Muslim inhabitants of Mahabad were chanting the slogan "Death to the United States," U.S. mercenary agents exploded a bomb along the route of the marchers, martyring 2 innocent people and injuring 26 others. [passage omitted on marches held in other towns]

Tehran Marches Detailed

LD041644 Tehran IRNA in English 1612 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 4, IRNA—The thundering cry of "Death to the U.S." echoed throughout the length and breadth of the Islamic Republic, as millions of Iranians took to the streets today, to herald the historic 4th of November.

From the big cities to the tiniest of hamlets, demonstrators rallied on the streets to mark the 8th anniversary of the take-over of the U.S. Den of Espionage (embassy) and the 24th anniversary of the exile of Imam Khomeyni to Turkey by the former regime.

In Tehran, a million-plus people from all walks of life converged on the Azadi (Freedom) Square, Western Tehran, from eight points, carrying colourful banners and placards which read 'Death to the U.S.', 'Death to the Al Sa'ud dynasty' and 'War, war until victory'.

At 09:30 local time (06:00 GMT), Iran's President Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i joined the ranks of the marchers in front of the Tehran University and was seen chanting "Death to the U.S." slogan, along with the rest of the marchers, displaying Iran's firm determination against the crimes committed by the U.S.

Other dignitaries present in the rally were Majlis (Parliament) deputies, cabinet ministers, ulema, members of the judiciary and many prominent political and religious figures.

Groups of disabled Iranian combatants in wheelchairs, carrying portraits of the founder of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni and future leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri accompanied the roaring sea of marchers.

"This is the proof of U.S. crimes" read bold banners in front of the ranks of the disabled combatants.

Hundreds of Iranian university students wearing shrouds gathered in the early hours of today at the former U.S. Den of Espionage in Tehran—the starting point of a section of the rally—vociferously chanting "Death to the U.S." and "The Persian Gulf is Reagan's graveyard" slogans.

Displaying their hatred of the atrocities perpetrated by global arrogance, the students announced preparedness to foil the Persian Gulf tension created by the U.S.

On this fateful day 8 years ago Muslim students following the Imam's path successfully captured the U.S. Den of Spies, exposing the true visage of Washington.

A jubilant group of motorcyclists was seen riding through the streets with placards calling for a campaign against corrupt aspects of the Western culture, expecially that of the U.S. in the third World countries.

Personnel of the Iranian ground, air and naval forces in uniform followed the marchers towards the Azadi Square.

Other notable groups in the rally were Iraqi and Afghan mujahideen and refugees, as well as Muslims from other countries residing in the Islamic Republic, carrying anti-U.S. placards in various languages.

At Azadi Square the U.S. flag was set afire before the eyes of the million-strong demonstrators who jubilantly raised their clenched fists in the air and chanted "death to the U.S.", symbolizing the nation's determination to counter the U.S. crimes.

A resolution was read at the end of the rally holding the U.S. responsible for masterminding all anti-Islamic plots throughout the world. The Iranian people will stand to the last drop of their blood against the intrigues of the U.S. and other NATO member countries.

The grave consequences of the U.S. military build-up in the Persian Gulf, vainly aimed at saving Saddam Husayn from his doomed fate and hindering the spread of the Islamic revolution, will rest on the Reagan Administration, noted the resolution.

The resolution stressed the Iranian people will continue their sacred defence until the Islamic Republic's denied rights are met and the aggressor Iraqi regime is punished. War fervor will not subside unless Saddam Husayn's Ba'thist regime is overthrown, it added.

It warned the ruling regimes in Hijaz and Kuwait to discontinue their assistance to the Baghdad regime or else they might also face the dire consequences of a fight with Islam and the Muslims.

All international bodies should know that the strategic Persian Gulf region is passing through a crucial period as a result of the tension created by the U.S. and its regional mercenaries, the Kuwaiti and Saudi regimes. Therefore, it is necessary for them to take a wise and just position in this regard, it said.

Any decision failing to guarantee the just rights of the Iranian Muslim nation is unacceptable to the Islamic Republic, warned the resolution, adding, nor can it have even the least effect on the Iranian people's firm determination to continue their holy defence.

Elsewhere, in the resolution, the demonstrators condemned the July 31 massacre of pilgrims in Mecca, ordered by the U.S. and perpetrated by the Riyadh regime, the promoters of the anti-Islamic creed called Wahhabism, which profaned the sanctity of Allah's secure house.

It called on ulema throughout the world to take revolutionary Islamic measures to clear the sanctuaries in Mecca and Al-Madinah of the hypocritical Wahhabi rulers.

In conclusion, the resolution underlined the need for the Third World to mobilize all their resources to eliminate the Zionist regime and liberate holy Qods.

Resolution of Anti-U.S. Marchers

LD041406 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] A huge and unprecedented march was held today. The participants in this march issued a 10-point resolution, which notes the following, among other things:

We, the Muslim nation of Iran, consider the arch-Satan United States as the instigator and stage manager of anti-Islamic and crushing movements. Side by side with other mobilization forces of the world of Islam, we shall stand until our dying breath against any conspiracy hatched by this aggressor with the assistance of its duped NATO allies against the Islamic Republic of Iran. We believe that the war-mongering ruling clique of the United States is responsible for the grave consequences of dispatching forces to the sensitive and strategic region of the Persian Gulf and that this move is aimed at saving Saddam and undermining the political and military victories of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

One of the resolution's articles persistently asks the country's authorities, in order to confront any military attack and conspiracies by the supercriminal United States, to take steps to strengthen the battlefronts against the Iraqi Zionist regime by making the best use of existing conditions, organizing the people's ranks, and designing and implementing the necessary plans. They should also make the necessary preparations to confront the United States with wisdom and farsightedness.

The resolution stresses the firm resolve of the Iranian nation to continue its 7 years of holy defense against the war imposed by the Iraqi regime. It states: Using all the country's resources, we shall continue our holy defense until the just demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran are met and the aggressive Baghdad regime is condemned and punished. By increasing the dispatch of fighting

forces to the battlefronts, and with the people's continued assistance, side by side with the Iraqi fighters inside Iraqi territory, we shall bring the final victory to Islam and to the innocent and oppressed nation of Iraq.

The resolution issues a final warning to the supporters of the Iraqi regime, particularly the reactionary regimes ruling over Kuwait and the Hijaz [Saudi Arabia], to abandon their support for the disintegrating government of Iraq. It says: War fever will not subside until the overthrow of the Iraqi Ba'thist Party.

Another part of the resolution warns all international and regional forums, councils, and organizations, as well as world public opinion, about the sensitive and strategic region of the Persian Gulf, which is beset by the tension created by the United States and its mercenary agents, particularly the leaders of Kuwait and Hijaz. The resolution emphasizes that this region is fraught with grave dangers and developments; there is an acute need for adopting a principled, wise, and just stance. To ignore this will lead to uncontrollable consequences and developments on a global level. In view of the fact that Islamic Iran has been subjected to the most barbaric aggression of history, it is determined to stand with firm resolve until its last drop of blood and until its just rights are realized.

The marchers again condemned the barbarous crime of the Al Sa'ud family, who violated the sanctity of the holy sanctuary by rolling in the dust and blood the pilgrims to God's house during the bloody tragedy in holy Mecca, which was carried out by order of the United States. They called upon the ulema of the world of Islam to resort to a revolutionary and Islamic action in order to end the hegemony of the divisive Wahhabi party over the holy places and return these holy centers to the main source of unity and struggle against tyranny.

The resolution also stresses: The only way to achieve the lofty aspiration of true Islam, the Koranic laws, and the salvation of mankind is to follow the instructions of the illustrious leader of the Islamic Revolution and to realize totally the great charter of the Islamic Revolution inside and outside the country. While honoring the beginning of the Week of Unity, on the initiative of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, the resolution affirms: The secret of achieving Islam's victory over blasphemy and the rule of Islam over all Islamic countries is to remove divisive elements and to move toward the unity of the Islamic world.

The marchers also paid tribute to the martyrs, to those missing in action, to the POW's and the disabled, and to the honorable families of these dear ones and the esteemed martyrs of the direct attack by the United States. They called on the fighters on the battlefronts of the war against the United States and that hireling of arrogance, Saddam, to move forward with much stronger determination than ever before, because the oppressed and Muslim nations all over the world await their victory.

In conclusion, the marchers again expressed their support for all nations' Islamic struggles, particularly for the zealous Lebanese youths in the fight against the aggression of the Zionist regime and for the Muslim nation of Afghanistan in its struggle against the interventionist forces. The marchers asked the foreign forces in Afghanistan to end their pointless intervention as soon as possible and return that country to its people in order to deprive Western imperialism of excuses to intervene in the Middle East region.

Larijani Interviewed on Western Sanctions

PM041613 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Oct 87 p 18

[Interview with Javad Larijani, deputy foreign minister in charge of economic and international affairs, by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given]

[Text] [*Keyhan*] What will be the methods of widespread economic sanctions against Iran by the West?

[Larijani] This propaganda by the United States is part and parcel of the same policy that has manifested itself in military actions in the area and in the shape of an international onslaught on UN Security Council Resolution 598. In reality, the U.S. attack against Iran is a strategy with different military, international, political, regional, and economic dimensions. The aim of this one section of U.S. strategy is in fact the aim of the entire policy.

Preventing an Iranian victory in the war is one of the goals pursued by the United States. This is a regional goal, part of a general strategy aimed at limiting the revolution. In order to limit the revolution, one must place limitations on the place that bred this revolution, to lessen the Islamic Revolution's momentum.

To limit the Islamic Revolution is the ultimate U.S. aim. The goal is to extinguish the light of the Islamic Revolution, to erect barriers to stem the revolutionary wave, and finally to destroy it.

[*Keyhan*] How do you evaluate the West's participation in these sanctions?

[Larijani] The thrust of these sanctions is related to our special economic strength. First and foremost, they are worried about our military strength. Undoubtedly, one of the most effective forces in our military power is our logistical capability, and of course logistical power needs equipment, some of it in hard currency. Therefore, the United States must attack this area. This means that our hard currency earnings must be undermined. Our primary source of hard currency is oil. Naturally, our other

sources of currency will be attacked as well, but the primary target is oil. Damaging our currency earnings through the sale of oil is the U.S. goal.

To achieve this, the United States can do two things, indeed it has already made the attempt. One is to reduce oil prices. There was a time when we were selling oil at $30 to $40 a barrel. Later, this price fell to $7 to $8 a barrel. This meant that our earnings were cut by one-fourth. The second method causes problems in our oil exports. This can be achieved in a variety of ways, for example to deal blows against the oil market or to damage our export facilities.

I feel that the United States has a program covering all these issues. Of course, in each case the Americans have come across some limitations and have faced our countermeasures. Reducing the price of oil does not mean that only Iranian oil is affected; the price of oil drops everywhere. If this drop in price had short-term results, it would have been good, but the results have been long-term. This has caused problems for the United States. The U.S. servants in the region and throughout the world also face problems. Even the American oil companies face difficulties in economic terms.

On dealing blows to our exports, as far as our customers are concerned the United States faces limitations as well. The world, especially countries developing quickly, are thirsty for sources of energy. The world is not saturated with sources of energy; it is a mistake to think that it is. The glut that existed in the market was a false one. It happened because the United States released the reserves it had, creating a false glut in the oil market. Thus, American policy does not have much effect on our customers. The only alternative is to physically cut off our oil exports, and in this method the United States has invested heavily.

Of course, Iraq also could not prevent us from exporting our oil. For more than 3 years the Iraqis have been attacking ships, yet our oil exports have never been cut and have continued in a steady, balanced manner. In the final analysis, the only alternative is for the United States to take military action against us. We have a thesis about this U.S. effort to limit our oil exports: If we do not sell oil, no one else will either. We have even proved that this is the case.

U.S. actions to limit our oil exports have now damaged Kuwait, and Kuwaiti oil exports are presently having problems. Other countries' oil exports are also facing similar difficulties. Insurance rates have gone up, and tanker shipments have become difficult. All these U.S. strategies have met with countermoves from our side. It is not as if they are 100-percent successful; I have mentioned these alternatives because the Americans are capable of doing them.

[*Keyhan*] What will be the extent of the West's participation in these sanctions?

[Larijani] The West did not join the previous round of sanctions en masse. West Germany, Sweden, and some other nations did not take part. It is possible that more countries will take part in renewed U.S. sanctions, but I do not see this to be a serious threat from the West. The reason is that the West knows very well that the U.S. policy will not be successful. The West feels that this policy will not weaken the Islamic Republic, that this policy will not be successful.

It is very important for the West to have access to the energy sources of the Persian Gulf, and the United States is doing things to cut off this flow altogether from the West. This failure in U.S. strategy is the best reason for the West not to unite on this issue.

[*Keyhan*] What will be the result of these sanctions on the economies of the West, Iran, and the United States?

[Larijani] It is possible that there will be some pressure on us; no one denies this. However, what the West wants is not to simple apply pressure on Iran; they want to bring the Islamic Republic to its knees. The United States wants to prevent the export of the Islamic Revolution, and this is something it will not achieve. We are a nation with great resources and our geopolitical position gives us great strength to maneuver. Therefore, this pressure will definitely not have the desired effect. I even think that in some ways it will make us stronger.

As far as we are concerned, all we need is a special set of programs whereby we tighten our belts; of course, this will be done. Therefore, the pressure may increase, but it will never be enough to bring us to our knees. We shall easily resist its various dimensions in pursuing our own goals.

For the United States, this would mean that it will not achieve its prime goal, to bring us to our knees. In return, what it will gain is the spread of hostilities in the region, the first victims of which will be the shallow, empty countries of the region. The victim will not be Iran, a strong country with deep roots. In the final analysis, the United States will be the big loser in this game; it is playing with fire.

[*Keyhan*] What will be the results of these sanctions for the West?

[Larijani] The West has suffered untold losses as a result of these actions, and it will gain nothing. The West is after the oil and the region's markets. The U.S. strategy will set the region aflame, which means no oil and no market. All the thieves now sitting on top of the oil wells will become beggars and, even with increased security, there will be no market. So the West will lose much.

[*Keyhan*] What measures should Iran take to counter these economic sanctions?

[Larijani] These measures should include those which have a direct link with the strategy of U.S. pressures against Iran. One of these involves our links with the rest of the world. This is an unchangeable fact because of our geopolitical position. The United States cannot separate us from the rest of the world.

The other point is that we must have a budget program that matches the new conditions. We must reevaluate our hard currency situation and strengthen the currency reserves. This is possible. As far as the internal situation is concerned, we must be ready to meet any pressure. Keeping in mind our human, financial, natural, and international resources, we can prepare ourselves for a pressure-type situation and naturally, God willing, we will be successful.

Minister on Telecommunications Satellite
LD051120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Excerpts] On 4 November, the "Death to the United States Day", the 2,000-subscription telephone exchange in Hashtpar, Tavalesh, was commissioned with the slogan of "Death to the United States" in the presence of Mr Gharazi, minister of post, telegraph, and telephone.

In an interview with an IRNA, reporter Mr Gharazi said: The commissioning of this exchange brings the total number of automatic telephone lines in the country to 1.9 million. [passage omitted]

Regarding making use of modern technology to improve telecommunications in the country, the minister stated: In view of our country's position, the need to make use of more advanced telecommunications equipment and facilities has always received a great deal of attention. In the future, our country will own an independent telecommunications space satellite. About 40 billion rials will be spent on this satellite, which will be used to expand international, urban, and rural telecommunications.

Tehran TV Comments on U.S. 'Weakness'
NC041413 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1620 GMT 3 Nov 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The United States today is pursuing the same policy in the Persian Gulf to save Saddam as it did in Vietnam and Lebanon. The difference lies in the fact that the United States is more vulnerable here, while the Islamic Republic of Iran enjoys superiority.

About 80 warships belonging to the Pentagon and its allies are either present in the Persian Gulf or heading toward it. The United States has spent billions of dollars for its military presence in the Persian Gulf. The concentration of NATO forces and those of its allies is the largest mobilization of naval presence ever, and is a manifestation of the fear felt by the Pentagon and by the White House of what will happen in the region following Saddam's downfall. Even though the White House Republican theoreticians believe that anti-U.S. crises in the world must be confronted with a show of arms and force, from the very beginning the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf has not had a reassuring result. On the contrary, since their arrival in the Persian Gulf they have lived in an atmosphere of fear. This fear and concern felt by U.S. militarists and by the Pentagon officials comes from the ever-present threat of attacks by Iran. This fact alone demonstrates the strength of the Islamic Republic and the weakness and impotence of U.S. strategy. Although U.S. militarists in the Persian Gulf, in a bid to feign strength, have resorted to methods such as attacking the Reshadat oil platform and the three patrol boats of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, after the attack on the *Iran-Ajr* cargo ship, or trailing behind an Iranian Armed Forces' aircraft over international waters, the facts indicate that despite their attempt to demonstrate their strength, the Americans are in fact always fearful of future incidents and are in a full and exhausting state of alert.

Meanwhile, in tandem with the "Island Liberation" maneuvers that were carried out for the security of our islands, the Americans reacted out of fear, indicating that they constantly fear possible act of revenge from Iran. The holy Koran notes that such people, despite their facade of power, lack true strength. Although their false dignity may create awe in people as far as their power is concerned, they are nothing but rotten wood which disintegrates quickly. They suspect and fear each sound and movement. The American presence in the Persian Gulf precisely meets with this description in the holy Koran.

The U.S. warships, as part of the general militaristic system of imperialism, are similarly rotten and hollow inside and are dissipated by the winds of incidents. The Americans know that their military presence in the Persian Gulf is illegal. Therefore, they should realize that if their aggressive presence in the Persian Gulf harms Iran's interests, the Iranians will never sit silently and will undoubtedly react strongly. These answers will be more effective and stronger than the acts by the Vietnamese and Lebanese people. [passage omitted]

With more than 6 million Basijis, who have been trained or who are in training, and with many trained fighters supported by 20 million people who are combat-ready, Islamic Iran is, in comparison with the Vietnamese people, an immense power. This is at a time when the divine power guiding the Iranian people has greatly increased their strength in confronting the enemy in this country. Because of this divine assistance, the United States will definitely be forced to leave this area more disgracefully than it did in Lebanon and Vietnam. Prudent Americans are well aware of this and are constantly concerned over the current U.S. military policy in the Persian Gulf.

Although the United States cannot foresee the downfall of Saddam and, in turn, the shakiness of its allies and, ultimately, the destruction of its interests in the region, the White House should realize it is facing an impasse it cannot easily break.

Islamic Iran does not create or increase crises in the region. The United States, by attempting military attacks on Iranian targets, particularly the Iranian oil terminals, showed that not only does it not support peace, but it is heading toward a comprehensive military confrontation with the Islamic Republic of Iran. According to a UPI report, the White House has prepared a plan on a limited naval siege of Iran. According to this plan, U.S. and NATO warships will inspect ships headed for Iran. With this plan, the United States has placed itself in direct military confrontation with Iran. The Islamic Republic of Iran naturally will respond militarily to the United States by means of its defensive military strategy. Thus, the Persian Gulf is approaching a period that will witness great historical incidents.

Pentagon strategists, knowing that the Iranian people are decisive and sincere in defending their ideals, have come to this arena to preserve Saddam and Iraq's Ba'thists. However, the Americans should not forget that our nation is like steel and that striking it will only paralyze their hand. The entire U.S. effort is aimed at opening a new military front in the Persian Gulf in order to mitigate the military pressures on Saddam and to save the Baghdad regime. However, it should know that Iran's defensive strategy is aimed at removing the element of tension—Saddam—from the region, and that this aim cannot be altered. With its military presence in the region, with its naval siege, and with other reckless acts, the United States will not only fail to tip the balance of the war in Saddam's benefit, but will also sacrifice its men in trying to do so.

Marxism as Revolutionary Method Criticized

NC041417 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0515 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Unattributed commentary from the "Voice of the Front" program]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] This date, 4 November, marks the anniversary of the revolutionary movement of a Muslim nation against world arrogance, led by the United States. It provides a good example for oppressed nations, particularly Muslim nations. The Islamic Revolution is regarded as a pattern for an offensive aimed at the main roots of oppression and crime. Its sensitive and precise moves have attracted world attention.

Until recently, it was said that the way to struggle against world imperialism was for people to join leftist groups and accept Marxism as the guide for launching a struggle and for starting a serious and comprehensive confrontation. In other words, in order to struggle against the United States, it was necessary to depend on another superpower so that the fight against U.S. imperialism did not lack backbone. However, the bitter experience of nations that entered the arena using this method of struggle and cast off their bondage to the West, only to have it replaced by the bondage of the Eastern bloc, taught everyone that Marxism is not successful when it comes to absolute struggle with foreign domination.

This revolution entered the struggle with the United States on the basis of "Neither East nor West" and showed that the correct way to fight against the United States is to shun domination absolutely and say no to both kinds of domination. In its conflict with the United States, this revolution was able to deflect the propaganda of leftist groups that advocated struggle against imperialism and to show that the true strugglers are those who say no to both superpowers simultaneously and avoid domination by either.

Throughout recent years, the revolution has, with its sincere activities, truly defined what avoiding domination means. It has shown that only the Islam of Muhammad and its life-nurturing teachings can liberate mankind from material and artificial things and teach people to live in accordance with divine teachings, free from -isms and -ists. By refusing to be dominated by the superpowers, the Islamic Revolution has given new meaning and significance to anti-U.S. struggles. It identifies the United States as the enemy of mankind and has made the unmasking of the inhuman face of U.S. policies a priority in its offensive policy against arrogance. Anti-U.S. struggles here become an ideological-humanitarian conflict. The United States is identified as an enemy of mankind and not merely as a political-military rival. It is precisely because of this that fighting against Islam tops the list of the policies of the United States and of the West. Arrogance has risen against the Islamic nature of this revolution.

Washington and its European allies fully understand that if 1 billion Muslims hear the message of the Islamic Revolution and succeed in following the pattern of the Islamic Revolution in their struggles against U.S. puppets, arrogance will die and its illegal interests will be seriously threatened. The goal of recent events and of the military expedition of arrogant powers to the Persian Gulf, is precisely this: to fight against the very nature of the Islamic Revolution. They want to prevent the message of the Islamic Revolution from spreading and have blatantly expressed this wish. However, this does not frighten the Muslim nations. It only makes the Islamic Revolution and its message 100 times more popular among other nations.

Ministry Seeks Speedboat Purchase From Turkey

NC050809 Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish 1 Nov 87 p 9

[Text] Adana (*Milliyet News Service*)—While tension continues in the Gulf region, the Islamic Republic of Iran has sought a large number of speedboats from

Turkey. The Iranian Ministry of Construction Jihad has informed the Turkish Embassy in Tehran that Iran wishes to contact Turkish firms that manufacture speedboats.

It has been reported that Iran does not plan to impose a limit on the number of the boats it wishes to acquire. Officials of the Iranian ministry have said that the boats to be purchased from Turkey will be used for "fishing." Nevertheless, Turkey is skeptical about the Iranian request. It is common knowledge that Iran has armed its speedboats with explosives and automatic weapons to attack U.S. ships, reflagged Kuwaiti tankers, and cargo ships in the Gulf. The Iranian militia forces who man the armed "suicide boats" are prepared to ram and destroy the enemy ships in the Gulf.

War Information HQ Denies Shelling of Basra

LD041459 Tehran IRNA in English 1408 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 4, IRNA—A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) refuted Wednesday the Iraqi Ba'thist regime's claims that Muslim combatants of Iran shelled Basra.

He told IRNA that Baghdad's claims are pure fabrications aimed at preparing the grounds for the Iraqi regime's further mischievous acts. Iran did not fire on Basra, he reiterated.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Iraqi Warplane Shot Down 4 Nov

LD041556 Tehran IRNA in English 1548 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 4, IRNA—An Iraqi warplane violating the airspace of Khark Island in the Persian Gulf was shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire at 13:39 hours local time (10:09 GMT) Wednesday.

Announcing the above here today, Air Force sources added that there was yet no report on the type of the downed Iraqi plane or the fate of its pilot.

2 Iraqi Planes Downed; Pilot Taken

LD050618 Tehran IRNA in English 0610 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 5, IRNA—Iraqi war planes bombed a number of nonmilitary areas in Khuzestan Province, south of Iran, Wednesday.

The bombardment took place simultaneously with the anti-U.S. demonstrations of the Iranian people, further proving Iraq's subserviency to Washington.

A number of civilians were severely injured and damage was inflicted on the bombed areas.

Meanwhile anti-aircraft fire of Muslim forces of Iran downed two Iraqi aircraft in the south and over the Persian Gulf waters. One of the two pilots was captured but there is no report yet available on the fate of the second.

The Iraqi regime Wednesday admitted the downing of one of its planes.

Iraqi Planes Bomb Civilian Areas

LD041712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Demonstrating the ever-increasing subservience of the Zionist regime of Iraq to the criminal United States, and continuing their wicked movements, Iraqi aircraft bombed several civilian regions in Khuzestan Province today, 4 November, simultaneous with our country's anti-U.S. demonstrations. As a result of these attacks, a number of our civilian compatriots were injured or shocked [moj-gereftegi]. Damage also was inflicted.

Communique No 3,010

LD041729 Tehran IRNA in English 1703 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov 4, IRNA—A French-made Iraqi 'Mirage' jet fighter was shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire in Khuzestan border region at 10:15 hours local time (06:45 gmt) Wednesday. The plane's pilot, Captain Riyadh Faraj Mohammad was captured.

Announcing the above, the 3010th Joint Staff Communique released here today also reported that another Iraqi warplane violating the airspace of northern Persian Gulf was shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire at 13:39 hours local time (10:09 GMT) Wednesday.

Iranian fighter bombers heavily pounded Iraqi fortifications and troop concentration sites in areas overlooking Sharhani, southern sector today, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops. The fighters returned safely to bases after the bombing missions which was carried out at 10:00 hours local time (06:30 GMT).

Iran's naval gunboats intercepted and searched nine cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday but allowed them to continue voyage after making certain they were not carrying cargo for Iraq.

An Iraqi infantry unit attempting to change positions in east of Basra, southern sector Tuesday, suffered heavy losses in men and equipment by Iranian artillery fire.

The artillery fire of Iran's Muslim combatants silenced Iraqi tank fire in Anjirah, Kushk, Majnun Islands, Sharhani, Pich-e Angizeh and Zobeydah, southern fronts Tuesday, destroying several enemy tanks.

In Qasr-e-Shirin, Chazabeh and north of Hur [placename as received], western and southern sectors, Iraqi forces sustained several casualties and losses and their engineering operations were halted by the artillery fire of the Muslim combatants yesterday.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern fronts Tuesday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and setting afire 10 gun emplacements, two munitions dumps and a command jeep of theirs.

Exchange of artillery fire continued throughout the battlefields Tuesday raging somewhat more heavily in Zeyd and Majnun Islands, concluded the communique.

Bombers Attack Iraqi Positions

LD051019 Tehran IRNA in English 1006 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 5, IRNA—Iranian fighter bombers pounded concentration centers of Iraqi forces in Sharhani and Zoybeydah operational regions, Maysan province, in two separate missions Thursday, inflicting heavy casualties and damage.

A statement by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said the attacks were in retaliation for Iraqi bombardment of non-military areas in Iran.

All the fighter bombers returned safely to their bases after successfully carrying out their missions at 08:30 and 10:15 hours local time (05:00 and 06:45 gmt) Thursday, the statement added.

IRGC Shells Helicopters Center

LD051049 Tehran IRNA in English 1033 GMT 5 Nov 87

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 5, IRNA—Twelve helicopters were heavily damaged as the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) shelled an Iraqi helicopter center in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province with artillery fire Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Iraqi economic and military installations in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province sustained heavy damage by IRGC artillery fire the same day.

A garrison, several vehicles and some other weaponry inside it as well as several warehouses and economic installations were also demolished and tens of Iraqi forces were killed or wounded in the shelling.

Pakistan

Junejo Meets With Gandhi in Kathmandu

BK041559 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo had an important meeting with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in Kathmandu today, which lasted for 30 minutes. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani and Indian Minister of State for External Affairs Natwar Singh were also present during the meeting.

A spokesman for the Pakistani delegation later said that the two leaders had discussed a number of bilateral topics and had agreed to accelerate the pace of negotiations on unresolved issues. Radio Pakistan's special correspondent, Safdar Ahad, reports from Kathmandu that the question of formulating a program for an early meeting of secretaries from the economic ministries of the two countries will be discussed during these negotiations. The issue of increasing bilateral trade and economic cooperation countries will also be discussed. The two leaders agreed that talks should be held between the two countries on formulating modalities to check the incidents of illegal border crossings. The spokesman said that the third session of the Pakistan-India joint ministerial commission will be held in Pakistan during the first half of next year. The foreign secretaries' meeting will be held in New Delhi by the end of next month. The drafts on a nonaggression pact and an agreement not to attack each other's nuclear installations are expected to be finalized during these talks. The two prime ministers also exchanged views on the nuclear issue.

Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has stated that Pakistan is ready for any bilateral agreement which establishes mutual trust and which proves that our nuclear program is for peaceful purposes. The two leaders also agreed that there should be a meeting of the two countries' defense secretaries to discuss the Siachen issue. It would be the third such meeting between the defense secretaries.

Sri Lanka

Indian Forces Continue To Battle LTTE

'Indefinite Curfew'

BK041452 Hong Kong AFP in English 1440 GMT 4 Nov 87

[Text] Colombo, Nov 4 (AFP)—Police clamped an indefinite curfew in Sri Lanka's northern Mullaittivu District Wednesday amid charges of at least 15 civilian deaths during an Indian military operation there.

The Indian High Commission here denied the allegations but confirmed that troops had mounted a search for Tamil guerrillas after reports that Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) fighters had set up camps there.

Residents in Mullaittivu said that at least five people died when Indians shelled the Vattupulai Hindu temple and 10 were killed in the second bombing of a school in Nedunkeni.

Residents contacted by telephone said that 7,000 to 9,000 people had fled their homes to neighbouring Vavuniya District, further south. The High Commission spokesman said the LTTE had fired mortars at Indian troops, but had no casualty figures.

The spokesman said Indian troops were keeping up pressure on the LTTE in the northeast of the peninsula while fanning south.

In separate search operations in Jaffna town, troops recovered gun powder, 65 bombs, mortars, grenade launchers and 10 detonators during the past 24 hours, the spokesman said.

An Indian military source said a major offensive was launched overnight Tuesday in Velvettiturai, on the northeast coast of Jaffna, and the area had been brought under control of Indian troops.

At least 230 Indian soldiers have died and more than 700 have been wounded since an offensive to disarm the LTTE was launched October 8 in line with an Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord aimed at ending the four-year Tamil separatist struggle in the island nation.

Some 20,000 Indian troops have been deployed in Sri Lanka's Northern and Eastern Provinces to enforce the peace plan.

13 LTTE Killed, 150 Captured

BK050851 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0840 GMT 5 Nov 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 05 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Thirteen LTTE terrorists were killed, 150 captured and 200 suspected terrorists taken in for questioning by the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) during the last 24 hours, official sources told *Lanka Puwath* today.

They said that after capturing the strategic north eastern coastal town of Velvettiturai about 30 km from Jaffna town yesterday the IPKF pushed forward and in a gun-battle at Punnelaikulam, Vadamaradchchi, killed 10 LTTE terrorists and is now continuing to move towards the interior of Vadamaradchchi.

Official sources said that Indian troops were to move from the north eastern tip of Jaffna Peninsula down south along Vadamaradchchi in order to link up with Indian troops already in occupation of Tenmarachi. This strip of land is bordered by the sea on the east and a lagoon on the west. According to intelligence reports a number of the remaining LTTE cadres and their leaders crossed the lagoon into Vadamaradchchi from Jaffna as it was being captured by the IPKF.

The IPKF also captured a large stock of terrorist arms and ammunition including a big .50 machine gun.

At Batticaloa two senior LTTE terrorists Ravi and Vasavan were shot dead by the IPKF while 150 LTTE terrorists were captured by IPKF and police in cordon and house to house search operations in the past few days.

In an operation at Thanniyathu, Mullaittivu area in northern Sri Lanka the IPKF took in for questioning 200 terrorist suspects.

LTTE Raids Muslim Refugee Camp

BK050937 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0925 GMT 5 Nov 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 05 (*Lanka Puwath*)—LTTE terrorists were reported to have shot dead yesterday a refugee at a Muslim refugee camp in Muttur, about 20 miles south of the eastern port city of Trincomalee.

Official sources told *Lanka Puwath* that the terrorist victim was Ahmed Mohamed Kaleel.

Two Killed in EPRLF-LTTE Firefight

BK051037 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1031 GMT 5 Nov 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 05 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Two EPRLF terrorists were reported killed in a firefight between the EPRLF and the LTTE at Trincomalee this morning, according to reports reaching Colombo from Trincomalee.

Official sources said that according to these reports the clash had occurred near the Muthukaruppan kovil [Hindu temple].

The IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force], they said, was inquiring into the incident.

The EPRLF is for the Indo-Sri Lankan peace accord and has issued a statement in support of its implementation, while the LTTE has reneged on its pledge to abide by the accord.

The EPRLF has severely condemned the LTTE for its actions.